DC
17
WINICK • BASRI
POWER GIRL
ENTER BATMAN!
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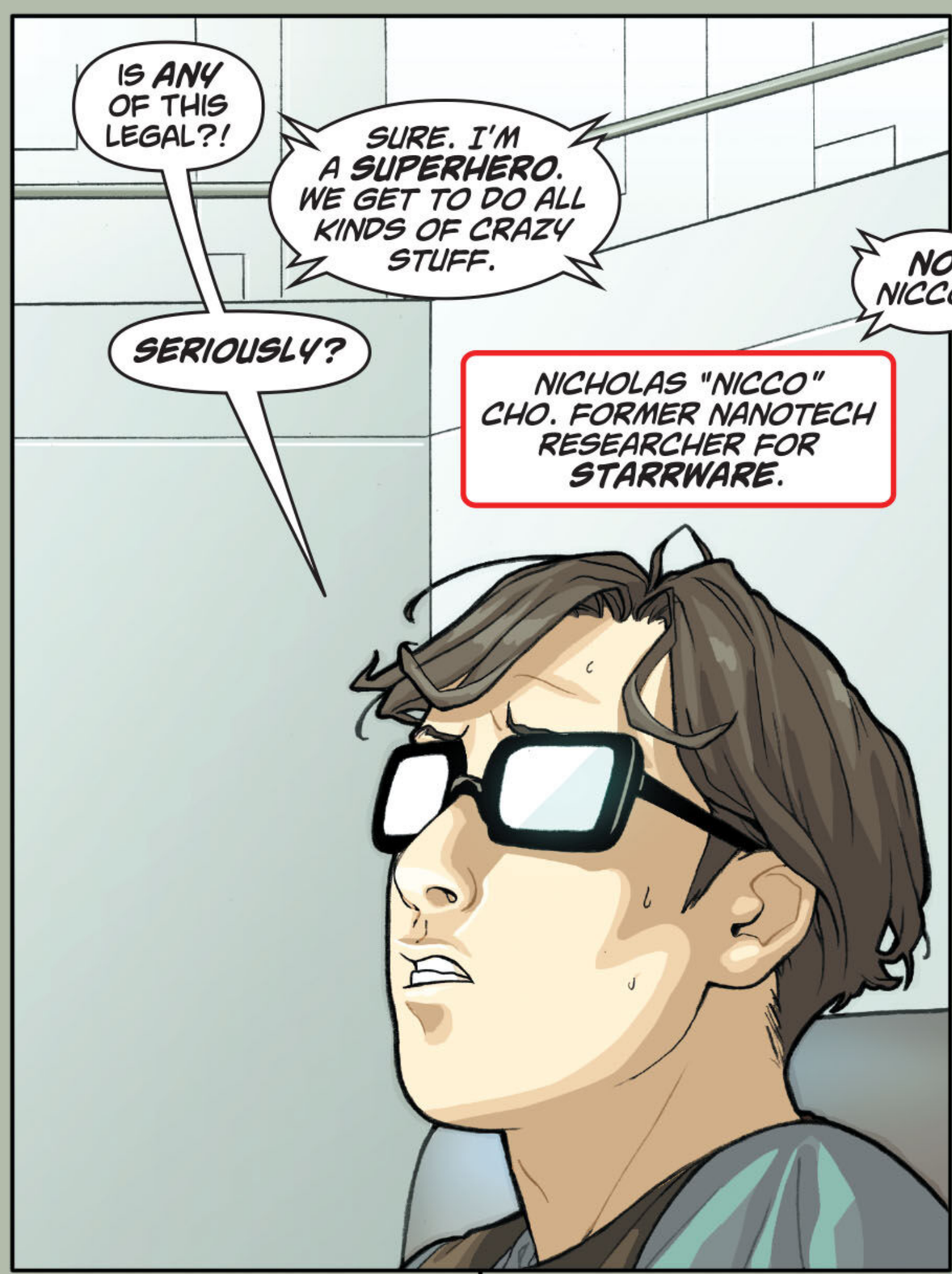
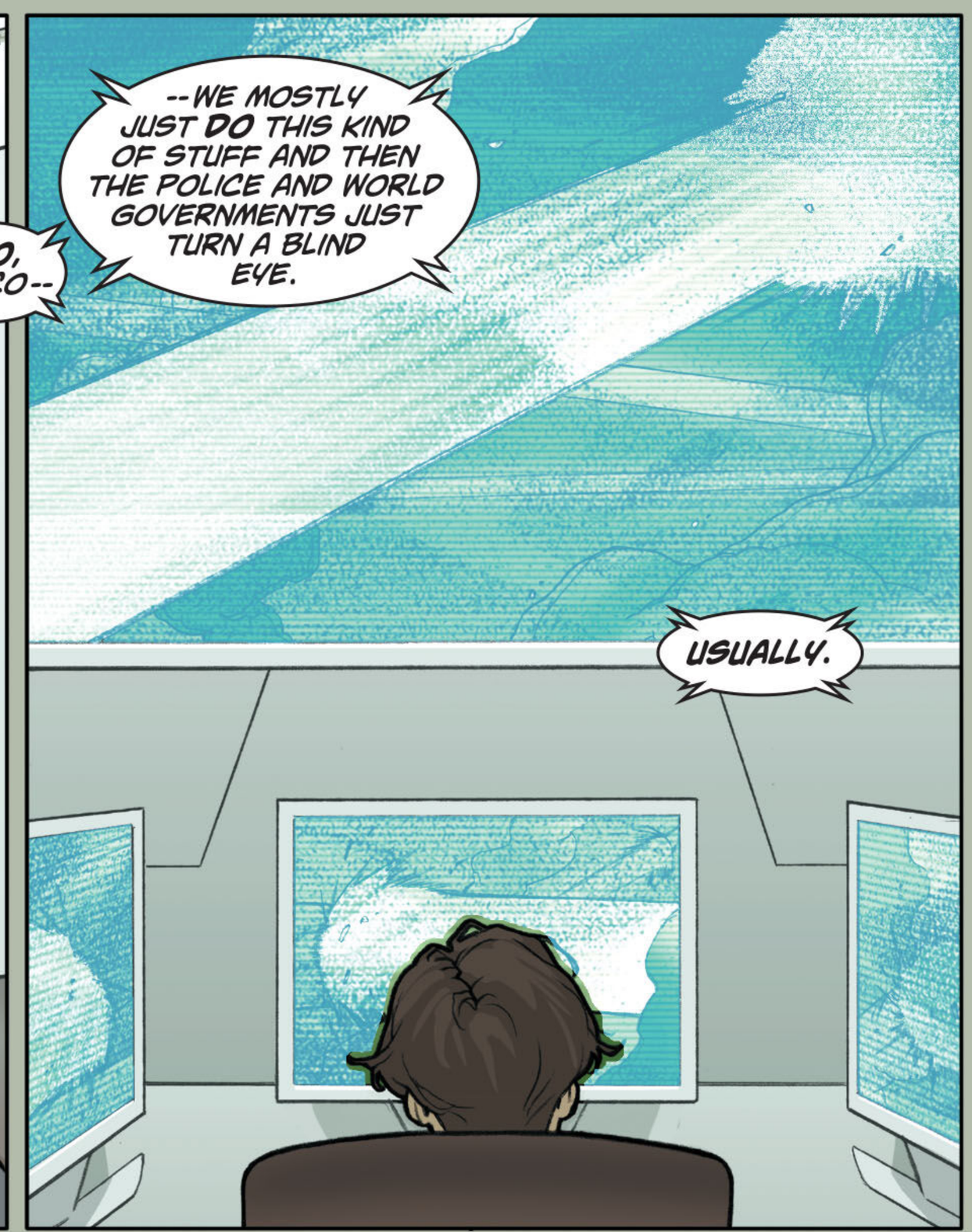
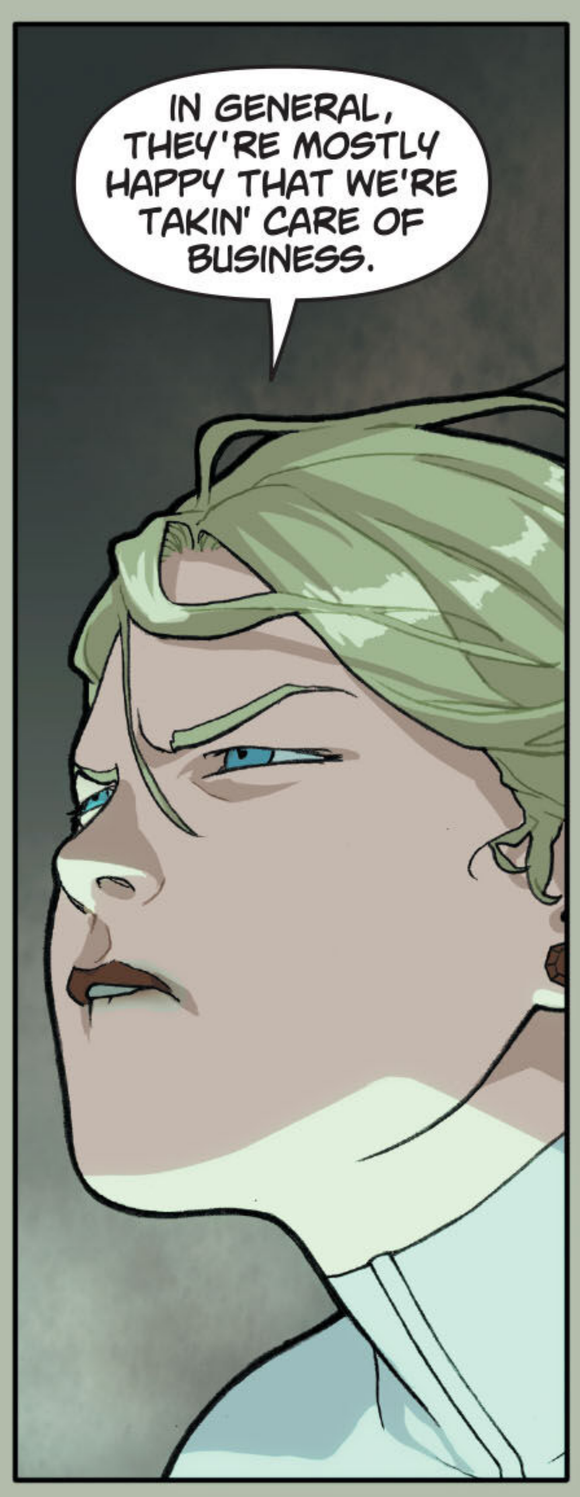
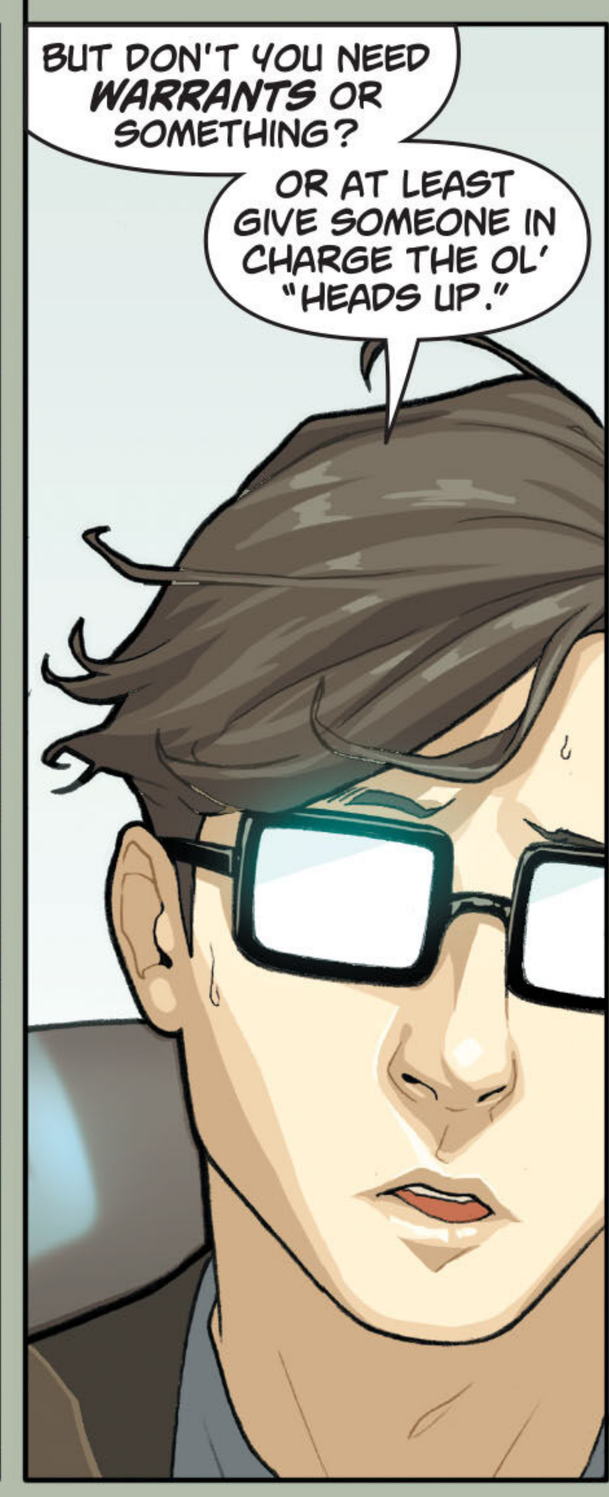

IS ANY OF THIS LEGAL?!
SURE. I'M A SUPERHERO. WE GET TO DO ALL KINDS OF CRAZY STUFF.
SERIOUSLY?
NICHOLAS "NICCO" CHO. FORMER NANOTECH RESEARCHER FOR STARRWARE.

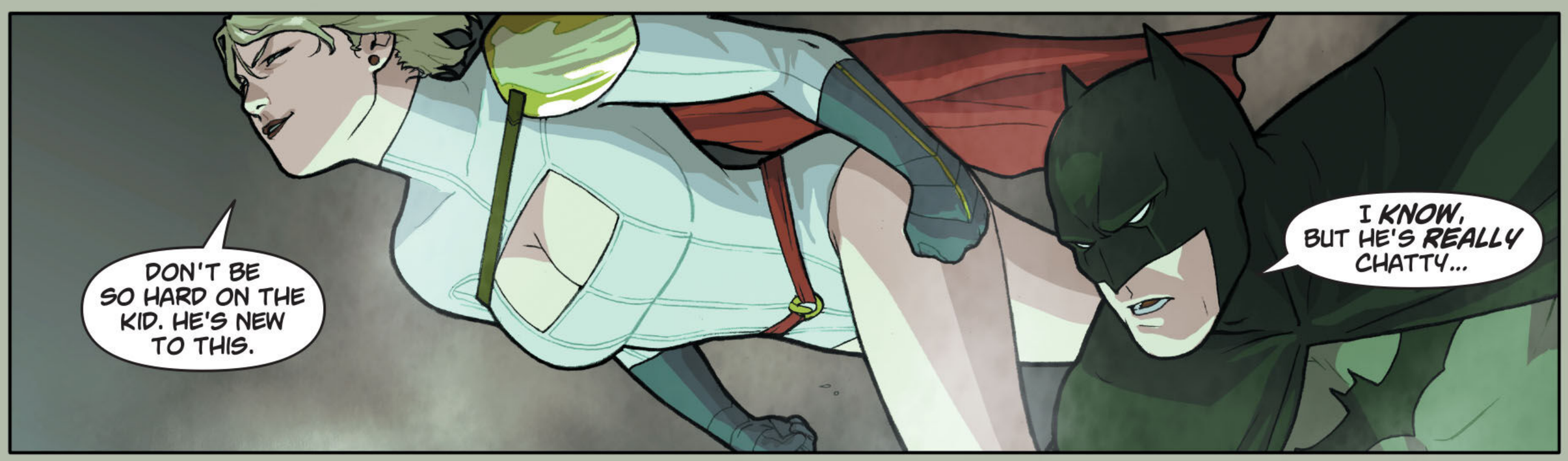

NO, NICCO--
--WE MOSTLY JUST DO THIS KIND OF STUFF AND THEN THE POLICE AND WORLD GOVERNMENTS JUST TURN A BLIND EYE.
USUALLY.

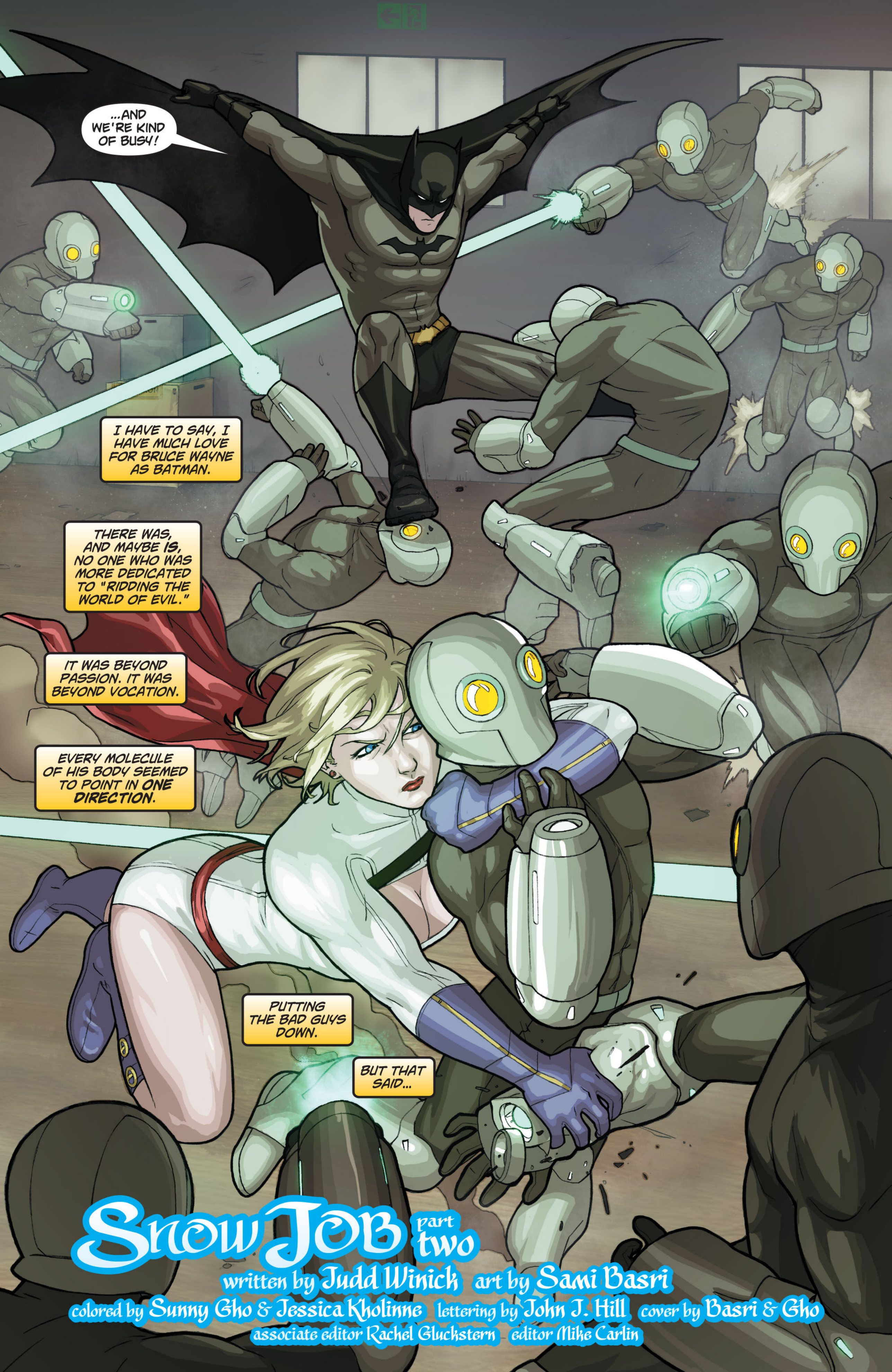

IN GENERAL, THEY'RE MOSTLY HAPPY THAT WE'RE TAKIN' CARE OF BUSINESS.

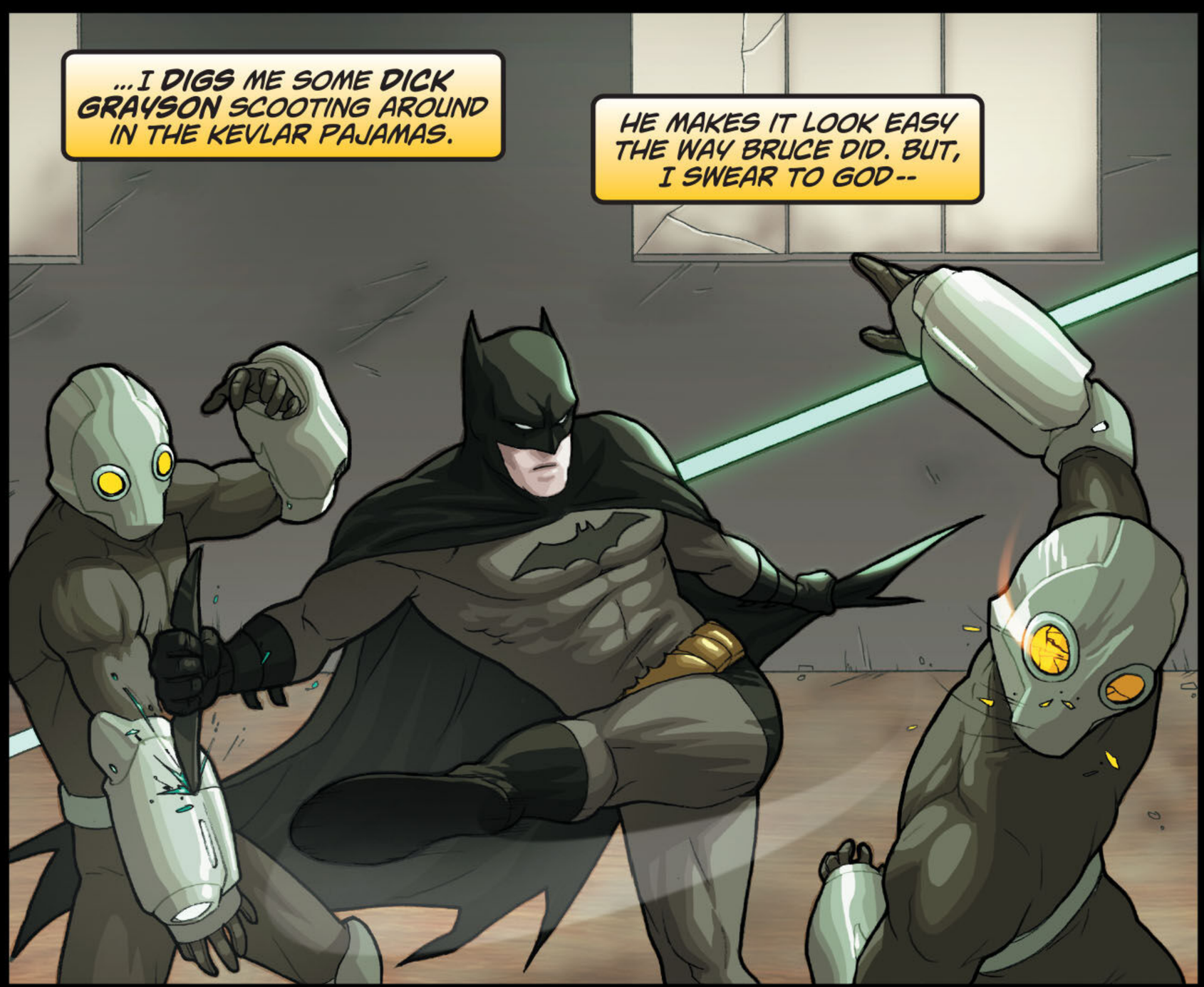

BUT DON'T YOU NEED WARRANTS OR SOMETHING?
OR AT LEAST GIVE SOMEONE IN CHARGE THE OL' "HEADS UP."

WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME...

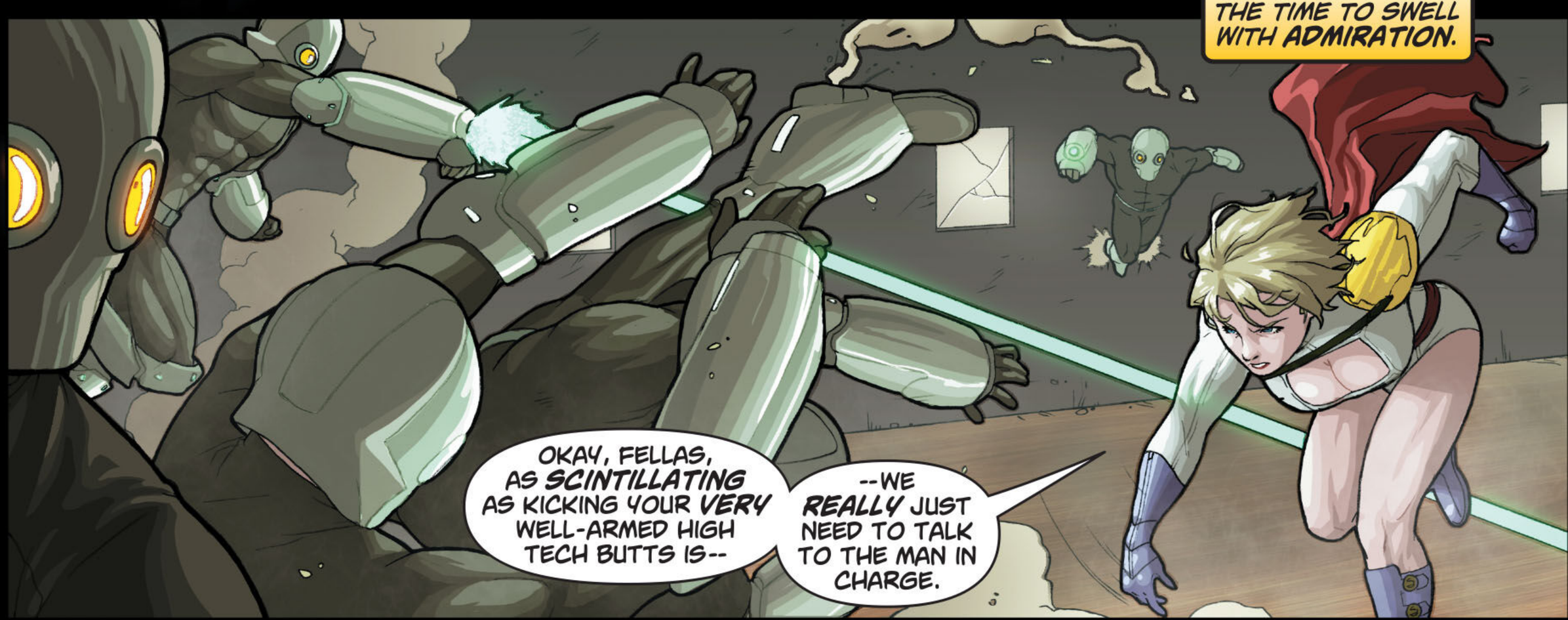
...AND STAY OFF COMMS UNLESS YOU'RE GOING TO PROVIDE SOMETHING USEFUL.


DON'T BE SO HARD ON THE KID. HE'S NEW TO THIS.
I KNOW, BUT HE'S REALLY CHATTY...


...AND WE'RE KIND OF BUSY!
I HAVE TO SAY, I HAVE MUCH LOVE FOR BRUCE WAYNE AS BATMAN.
THERE WAS, AND MAYBE IS, NO ONE WHO WAS MORE DEDICATED TO "RIDDING THE WORLD OF EVIL."
IT WAS BEYOND PASSION. IT WAS BEYOND VOCATION.
EVERY MOLECULE OF HIS BODY SEEMED TO POINT IN ONE DIRECTION.
PUTTING THE BAD GUYS DOWN.
BUT THAT SAID...
Snow Job part two
written by Judd Winick art by Sami Basri
colored by Sunny Gho & Jessica Kholinne lettering by John J. Hill cover by Basri & Gho
associate editor Rachel Gluckstern editor Mike Carlin

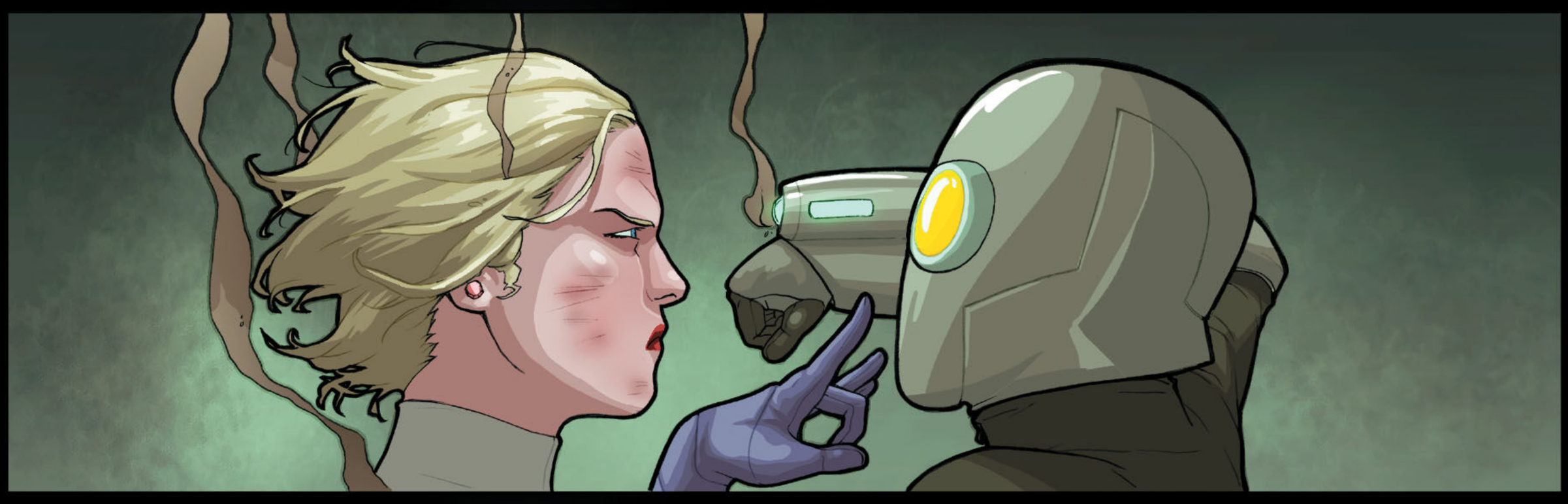

...I DIGS ME SOME DICK GRAYSON SCOOTING AROUND IN THE KEVLAR PAJAMAS.
HE MAKES IT LOOK EASY THE WAY BRUCE DID. BUT, I SWEAR TO GOD--

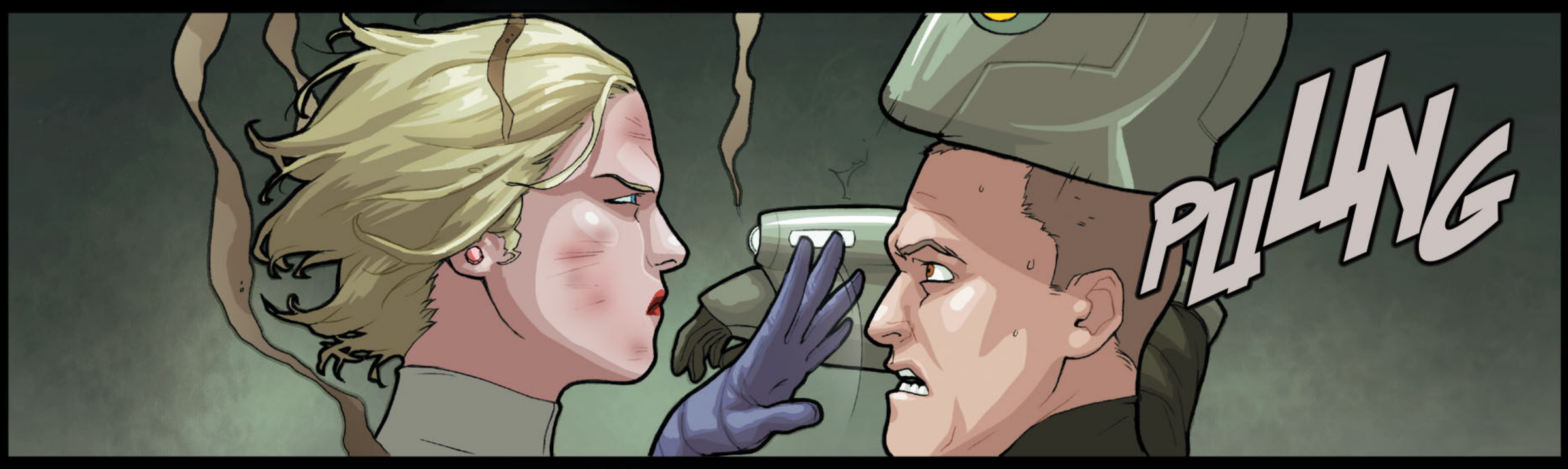
--HALF THE TIME, IT ACTUALLY SEEMS LIKE HE'S HAVING FUN.

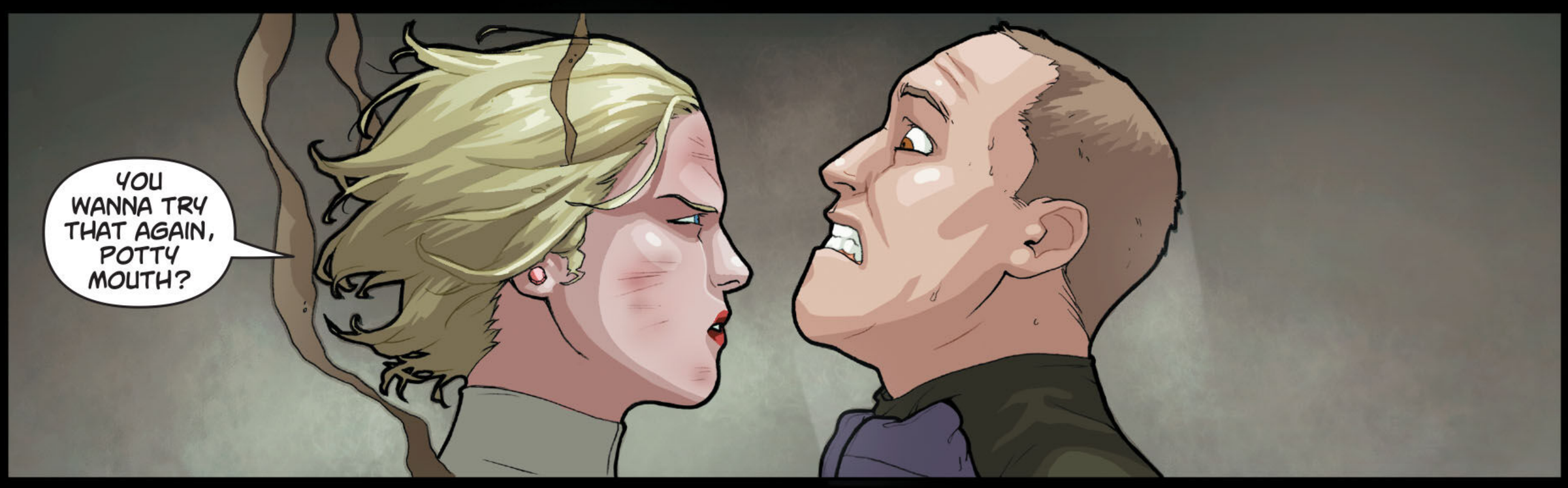

BUT I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO SWELL WITH ADMIRATION.
OKAY, FELLAS, AS SCINTILLATING AS KICKING YOUR VERY WELL-ARMED HIGH TECH BUTTS IS--
--WE REALLY JUST NEED TO TALK TO THE MAN IN CHARGE.

GO @#$% YOURSELF YOU BIG %$!$!!

SCOORCH




PULLING


YOU WANNA TRY THAT AGAIN, POTTY MOUTH?

THE FLOOR'S THICKER OVER HERE. AND THERE'S A SEAM RUNNING ACROSS THE--

THAT SOUNDS MORE LIKE A DOOR THAN FLOOR TO ME.
CRUNK

HRRR--
RUUUUN

BENJAMIN VITALE. THE SIXTH MOST PROSPEROUS ILLEGAL ARMS DEALER IN THE WORLD.
BACK OFF!! OR I'LL KILL YOU BOTH!! YOU DON'T SCARE ME!!
DUDE. GET A GRIP.

I JUST TORE OPEN THE FOUR-TON DOOR TO YOUR SAFE ROOM WITH MY HANDS.
AND BATMAN IS STANDING NEXT TO ME.
OF COURSE YOU'RE SCARED.

BEE--OOM
AH!! HOT!!
YEAH, HEAT VISION WILL DO THAT.

THREE DAYS AGO YOU TRIED TO SELL AN ARMAMENT TO RANDALL MIKAVIC. CODENAMED C.R.A.S.H.-- CYBERNETIC RE-ADAPTIVE SIMULANT HUMANOID.
IT WENT BAD.
YOU'RE GOING AWAY FOR THAT AND A LAUNDRY LIST OF OTHER HIGH-END GUN-RUNNING GARBAGE.

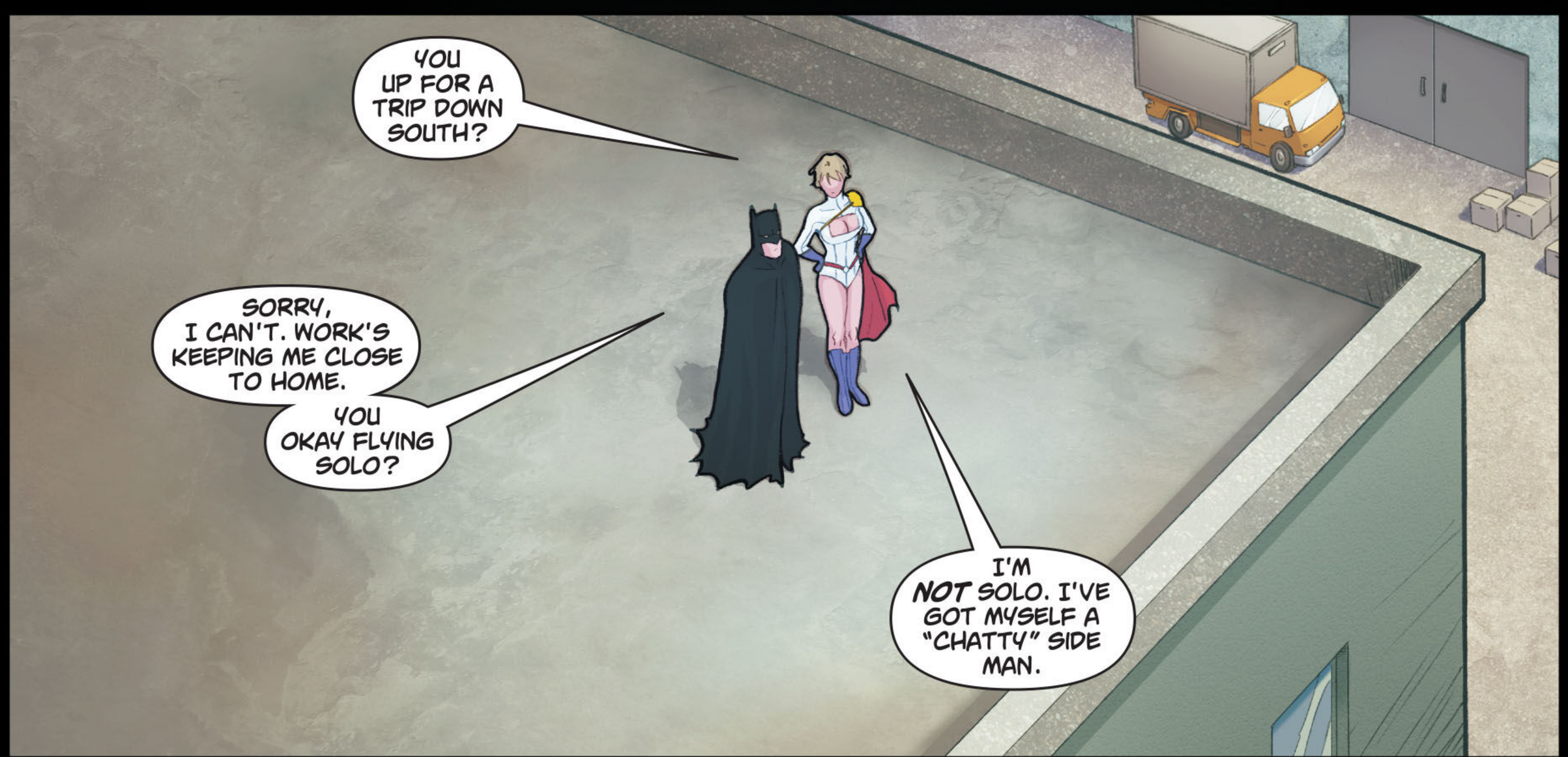
YOU CAN'T PROVE--
SLAP
NOW WE'RE AT THE PART WHERE YOU TELL ME THINGS.

AFTER YOU STOLE IT FROM A GOVERNMENT FACILITY AND BEFORE YOU TRIED TO HOCK IT TO MIKAVIC--
--WHO WAS TURNED INTO NINE FEET OF RAMPAGING MONSTER, BY THE WAY--
--YOU SHIPPED IT SOMEWHERE FOR OVER A WEEK.
I'M THINKING IT "VACATIONED" SOMEPLACE COLD.

WHERE'D IT GO?

LIKE HE SAID. THIS IS THE PART WHERE YOU TELL HIM THINGS.

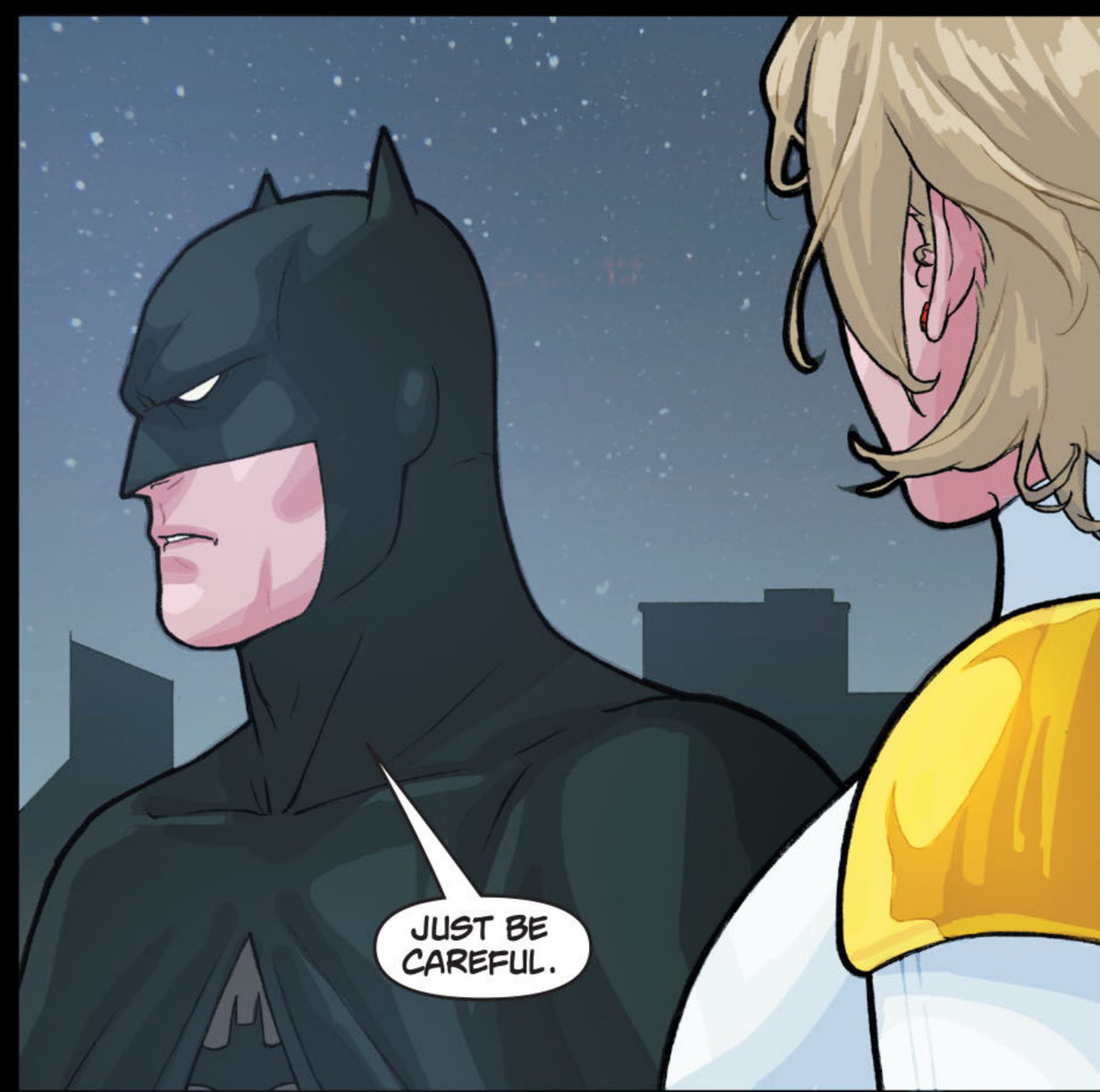
ANTARCTICA.


YOU UP FOR A TRIP DOWN SOUTH?
SORRY, I CAN'T. WORK'S KEEPING ME CLOSE TO HOME.
YOU OKAY FLYING SOLO?
I'M NOT SOLO. I'VE GOT MYSELF A "CHATTY" SIDE MAN.

YES. THE EX-CON, CYBER CROOK.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PULLED HIS FEDERAL RAP SHEET FOR ME--
--AND SAID HE'D BE A FINE EMPLOYEE AT STARRWARE.

THAT WAS RESEARCH FOR YOUR COMPANY. THIS IS FIELD WORK.
THIS IS HIM BEING GIVEN THE INSIDE TRACK TO YOUR LIFE AND SAFETY.

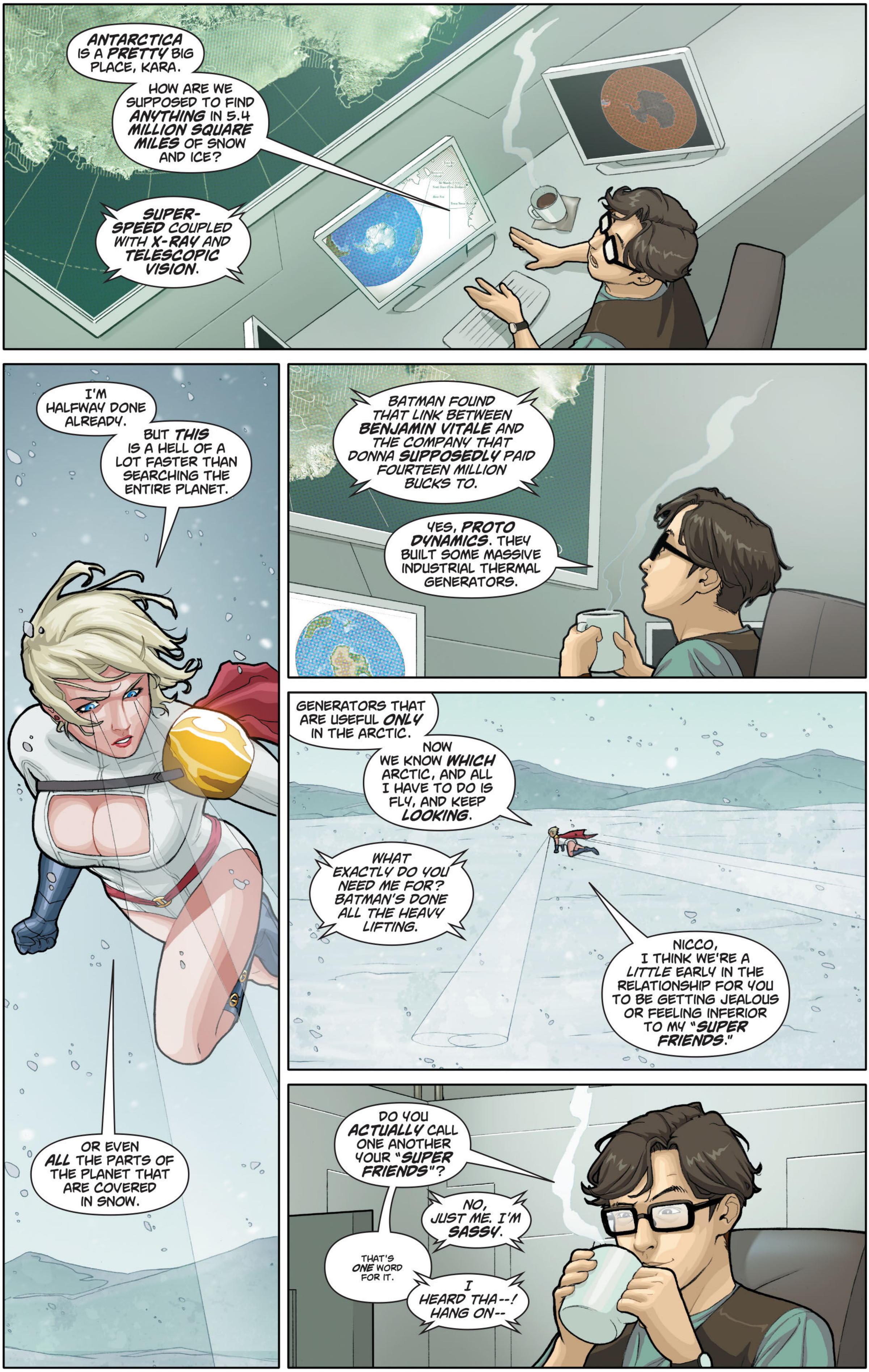
YOU SOUND LIKE BRUCE.

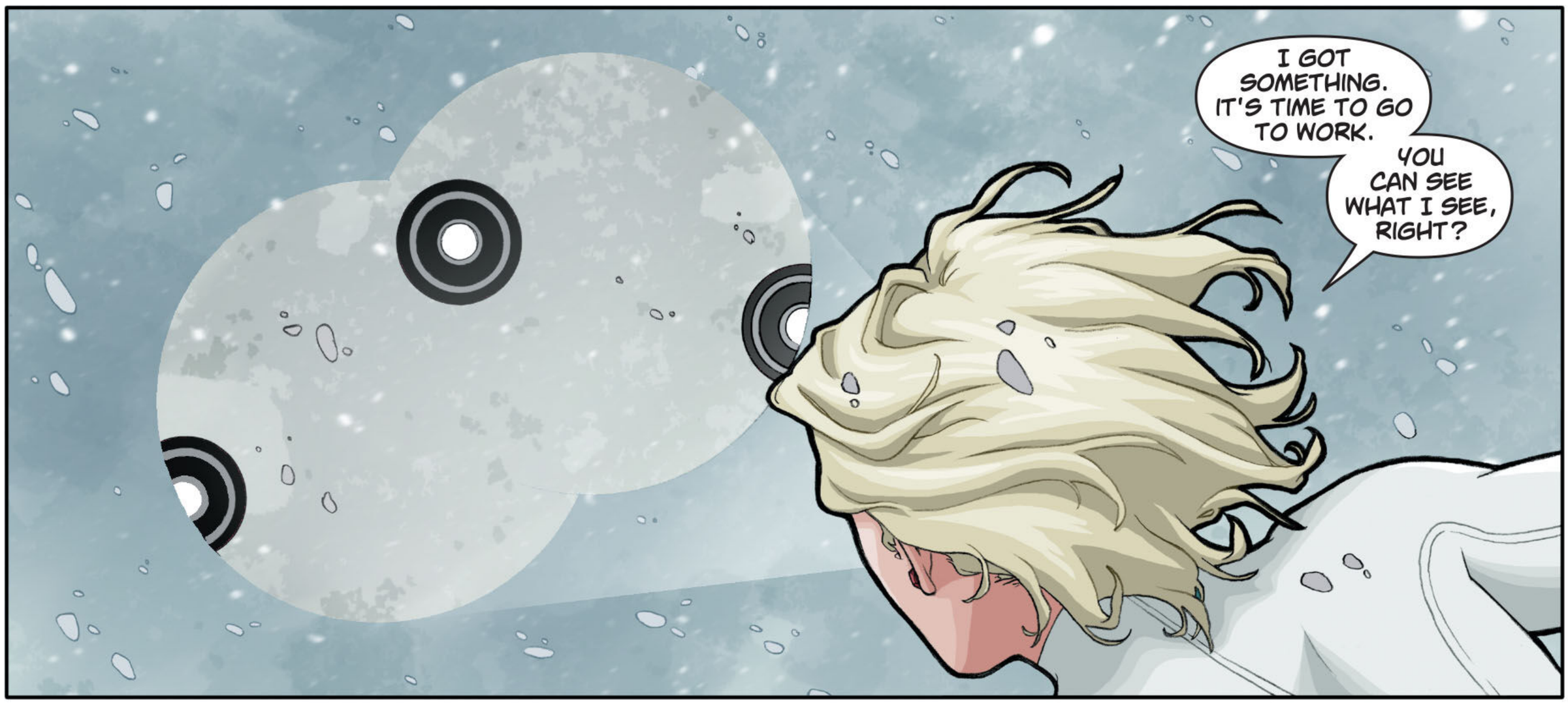

JUST BE CAREFUL.

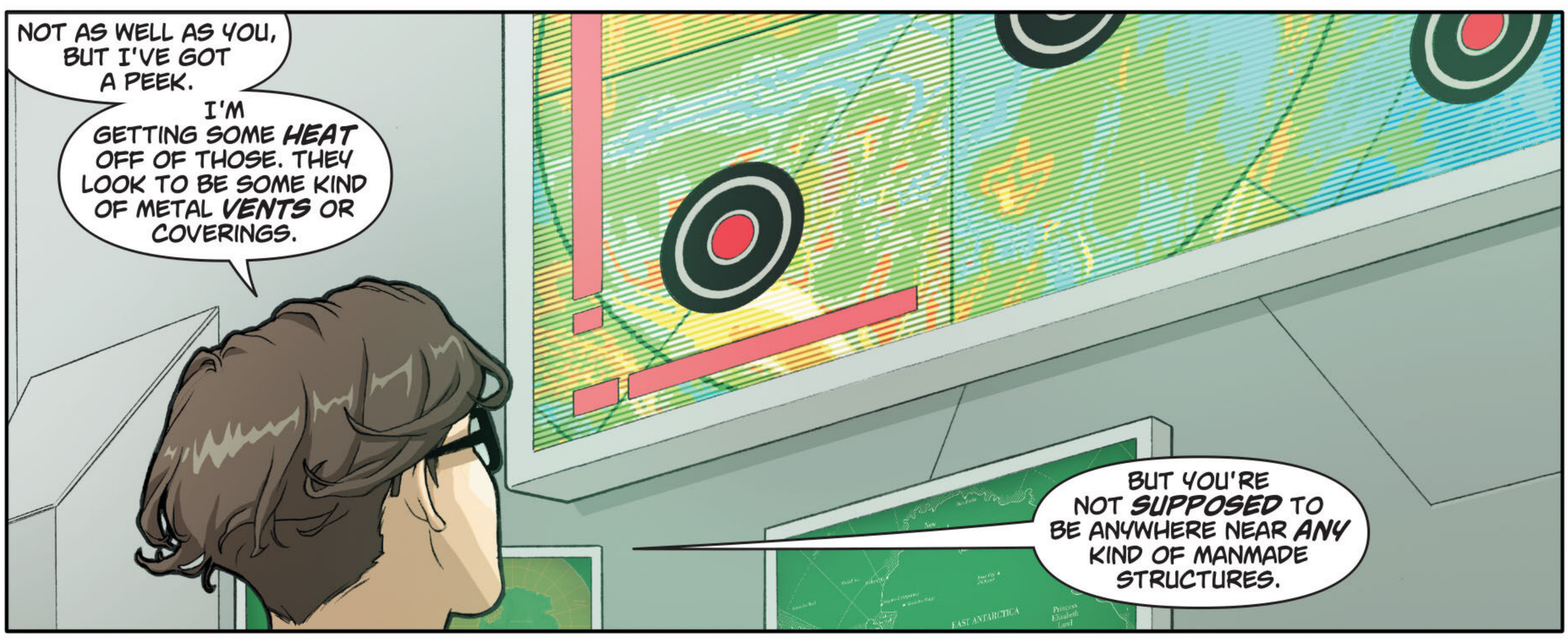
WHEN AM I NOT CAREFUL?

YOU WANT A LIST?

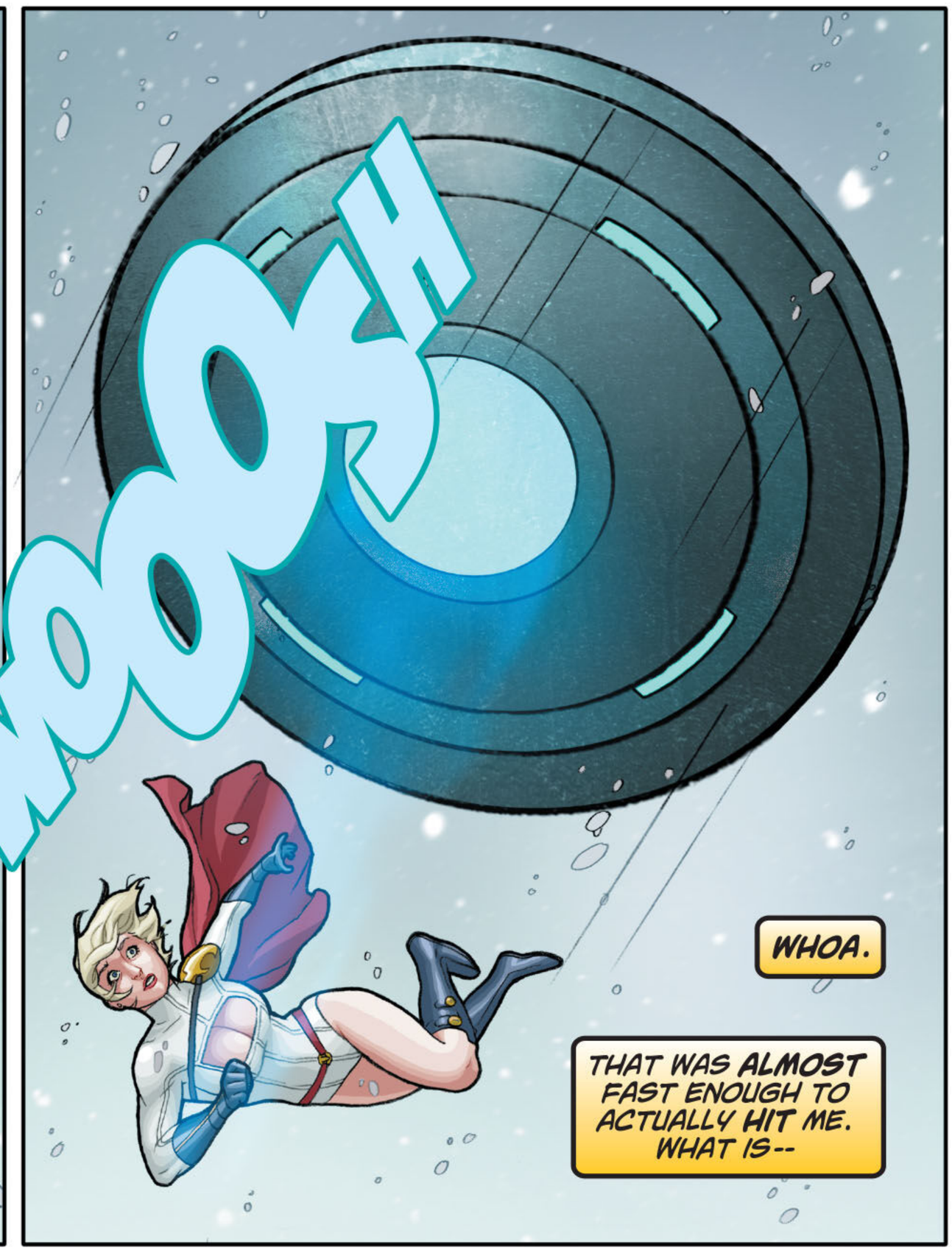
I HEARD THAT!
I KNOW.

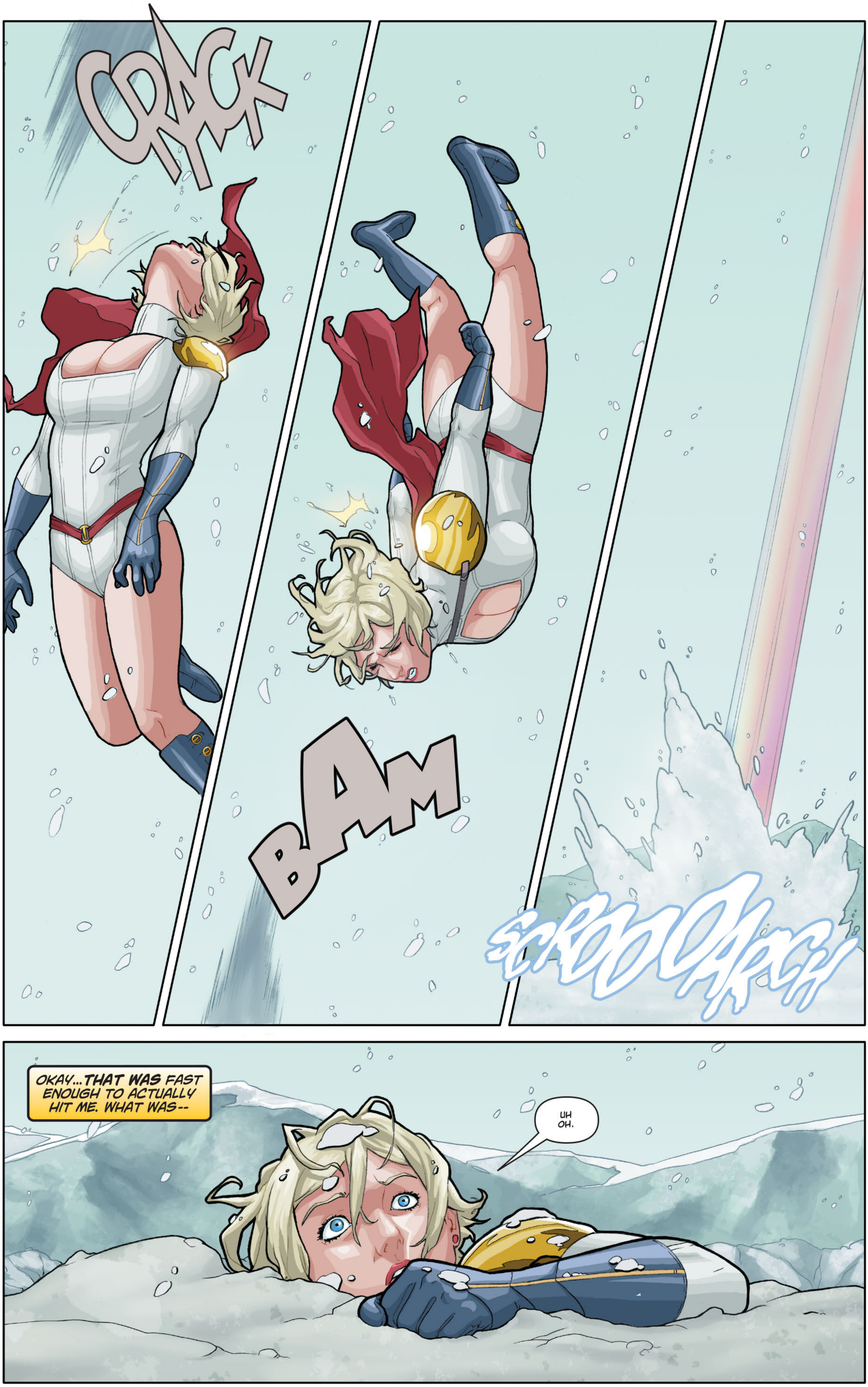

ANTARCTICA IS A PRETTY BIG PLACE, KARA.
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FIND ANYTHING IN 5.4 MILLION SQUARE MILES OF SNOW AND ICE?
SUPER-SPEED COUPLED WITH X-RAY AND TELESCOPIC VISION.
I'M HALFWAY DONE ALREADY.
BUT THIS IS A HELL OF A LOT FASTER THAN SEARCHING THE ENTIRE PLANET.
OR EVEN ALL THE PARTS OF THE PLANET THAT ARE COVERED IN SNOW.
BATMAN FOUND THAT LINK BETWEEN BENJAMIN VITALE AND THE COMPANY THAT DONNA SUPPOSEDLY PAID FOURTEEN MILLION BUCKS TO.
YES, PROTO DYNAMICS. THEY BUILT SOME MASSIVE INDUSTRIAL THERMAL GENERATORS.
GENERATORS THAT ARE USEFUL ONLY IN THE ARCTIC.
NOW WE KNOW WHICH ARCTIC, AND ALL I HAVE TO DO IS FLY, AND KEEP LOOKING.
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU NEED ME FOR? BATMAN'S DONE ALL THE HEAVY LIFTING.
NICCO, I THINK WE'RE A LITTLE EARLY IN THE RELATIONSHIP FOR YOU TO BE GETTING JEALOUS OR FEELING INFERIOR TO MY "SUPER FRIENDS."
DO YOU ACTUALLY CALL ONE ANOTHER YOUR "SUPER FRIENDS"?
NO, JUST ME. I'M SASSY.
THAT'S ONE WORD FOR IT.
I HEARD THA--! HANG ON--

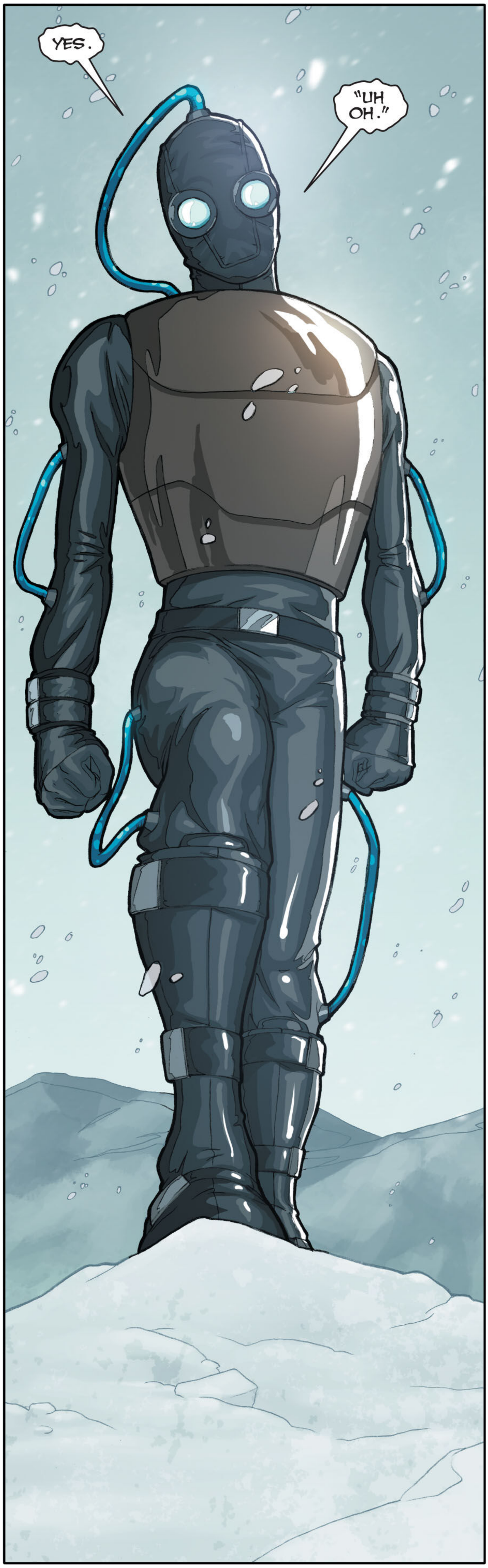

I GOT SOMETHING. IT'S TIME TO GO TO WORK.
YOU CAN SEE WHAT I SEE, RIGHT?


NOT AS WELL AS YOU, BUT I'VE GOT A PEEK.
I'M GETTING SOME HEAT OFF OF THOSE. THEY LOOK TO BE SOME KIND OF METAL VENTS OR COVERINGS.
BUT YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE ANYWHERE NEAR ANY KIND OF MANMADE STRUCTURES.

SIMPLY PUT: THOSE SHOULDN'T BE THERE.
SO, WE MIGHT HAVE SOUP. I'M GOING IN FOR A CLOSER--

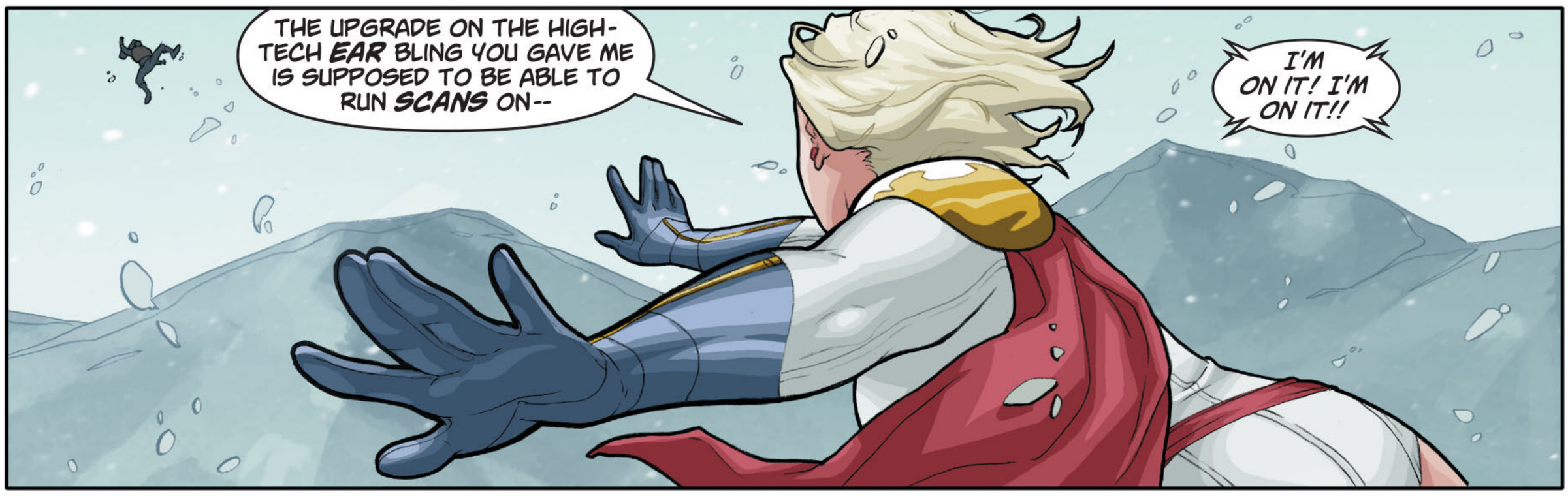

SWOOSH
WHOA.
THAT WAS ALMOST FAST ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY HIT ME. WHAT IS--


CRACK
BAM
SCRAAAPP
OKAY...THAT WAS FAST ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY HIT ME. WHAT WAS--
UH OH.

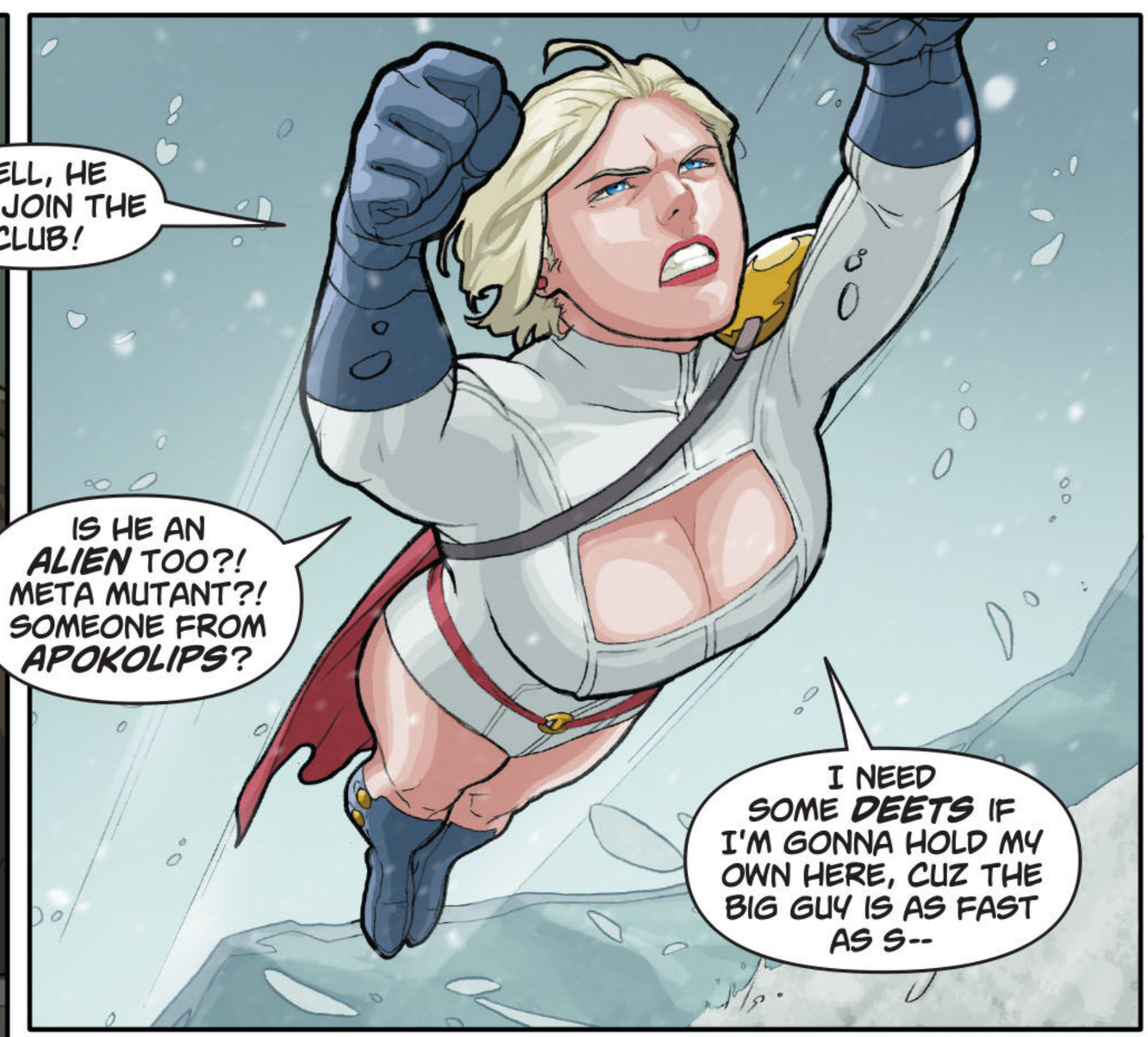

YES.
"UH OH."

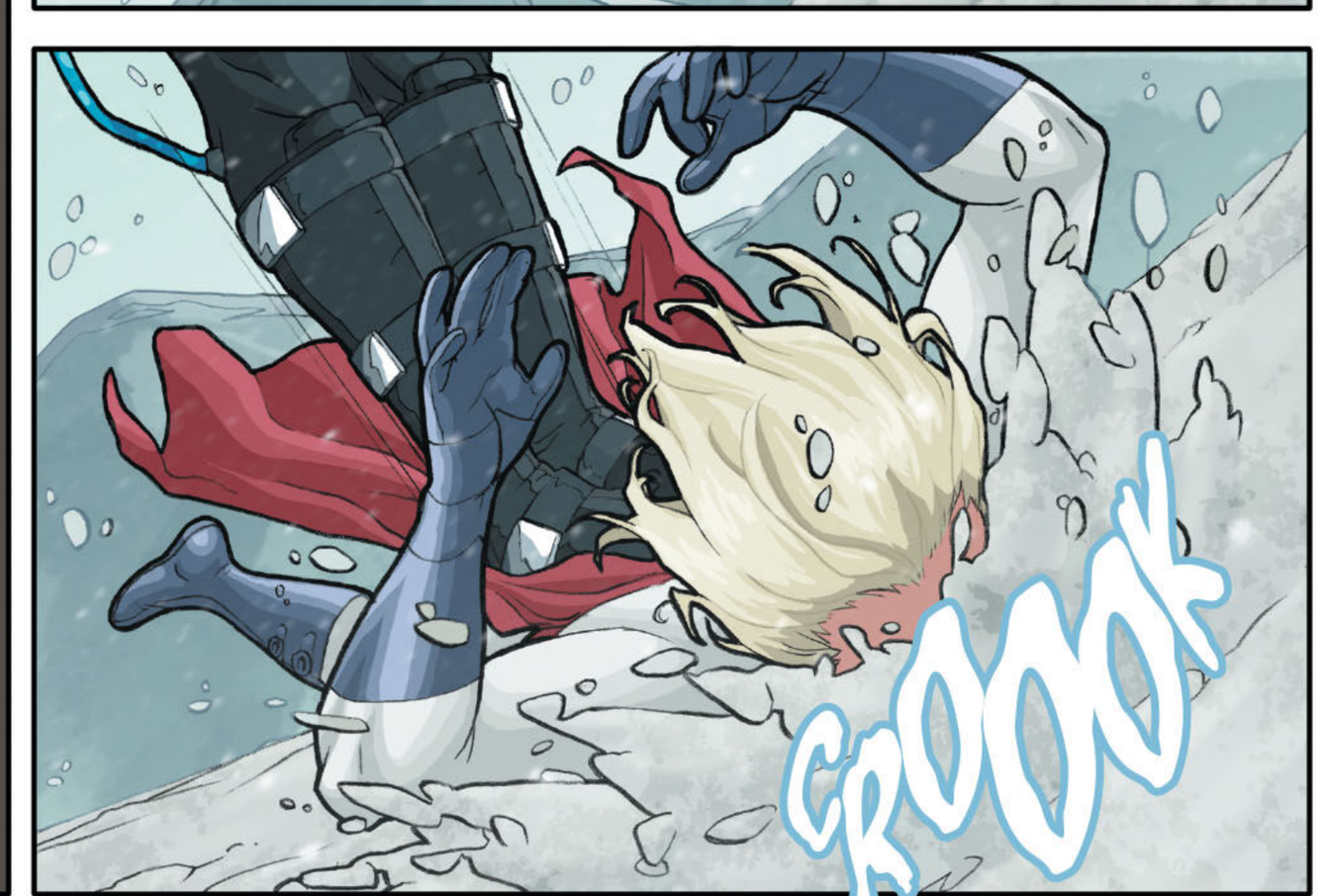
OKAY. WELL, "HELLO. I'M POWER GIRL." WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
LET'S JUST SAY, I'M "A WORK IN PROGRESS."

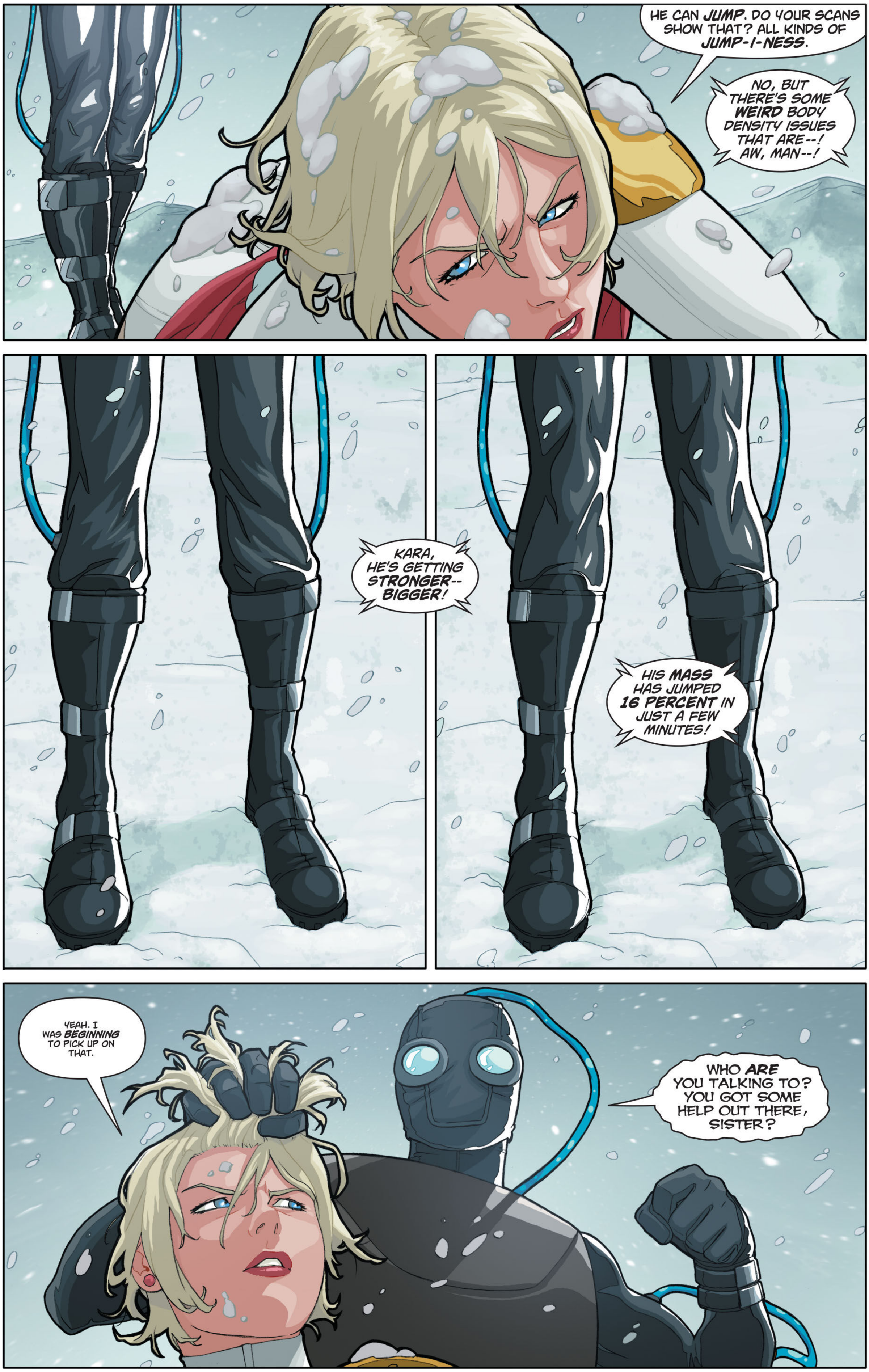
NICCO?! YOU CATCHING ALL THIS??
I'VE GOT EYES ON IT, YEAH!!

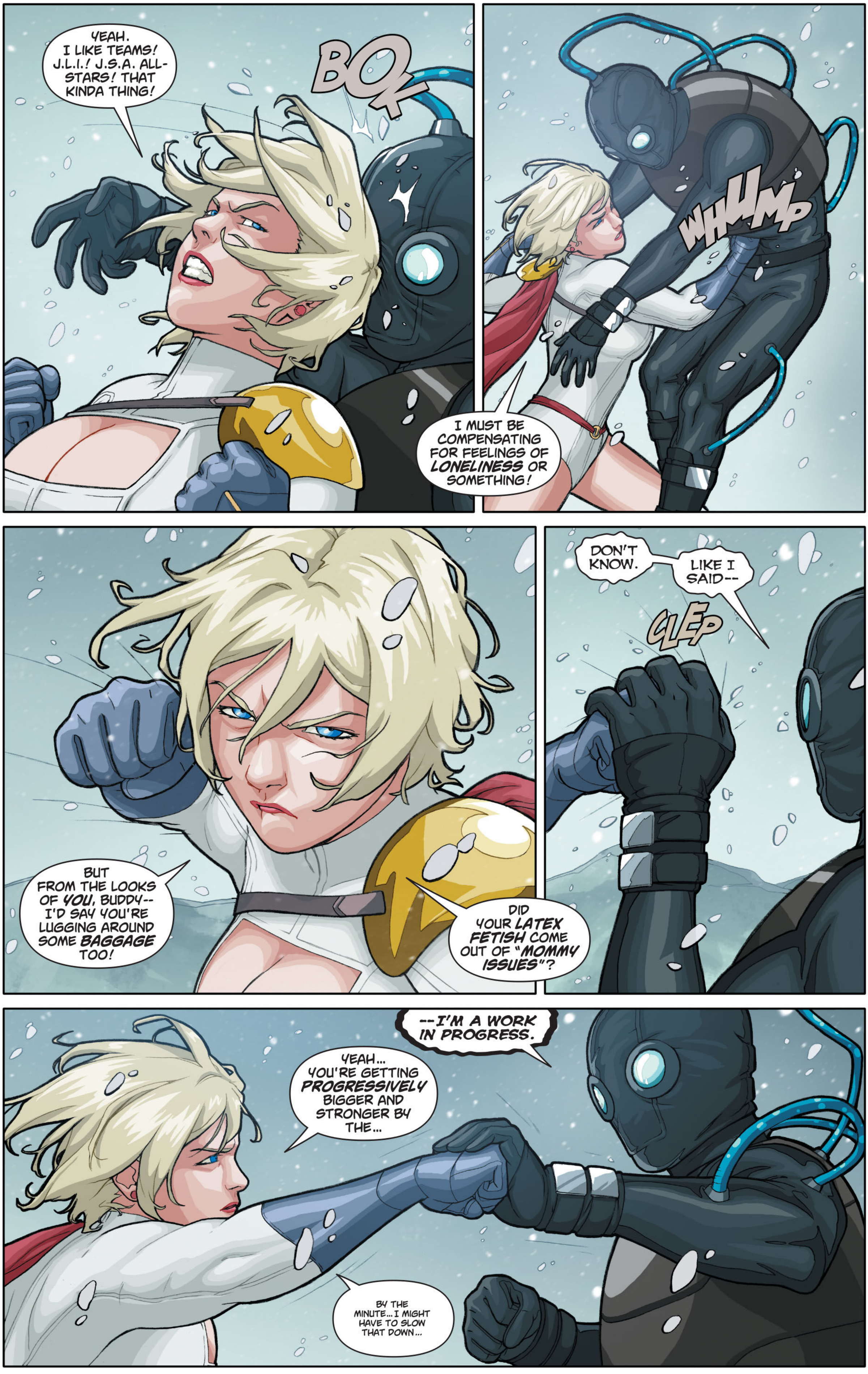

THE UPGRADE ON THE HIGH-TECH EAR BLING YOU GAVE ME IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO RUN SCANS ON--
I'M ON IT! I'M ON IT!!

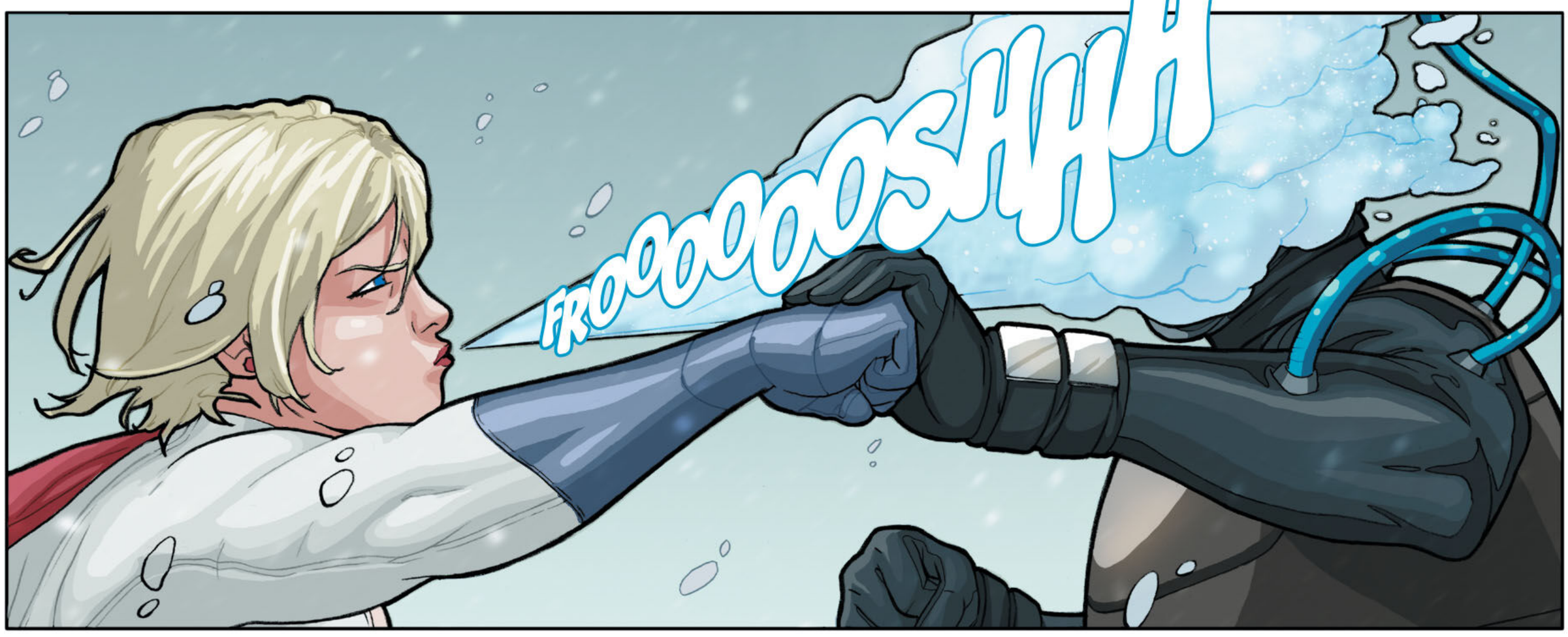
I'VE BEEN RUNNING 25 DIAGNOSTICS ON THE CREEPY DUDE SINCE HE GOT HIS FIRST PUNCH IN!
WHAT HAVE YOU FOUND?!
HE'S NOT HUMAN, THAT'S FOR SURE!


WELL, HE CAN JOIN THE CLUB!
IS HE AN ALIEN TOO?! META MUTANT?! SOMEONE FROM APOKOLIPS?
I NEED SOME DEETS IF I'M GONNA HOLD MY OWN HERE, CUZ THE BIG GUY IS AS FAST AS S--


CROOK


HE CAN JUMP. DO YOUR SCANS SHOW THAT? ALL KINDS OF JUMP-I-NESS.
NO, BUT THERE'S SOME WEIRD BODY DENSITY ISSUES THAT ARE--! AW, MAN--!
KARA, HE'S GETTING STRONGER-- BIGGER!
HIS MASS HAS JUMPED 16 PERCENT IN JUST A FEW MINUTES!
YEAH. I WAS BEGINNING TO PICK UP ON THAT.
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO? YOU GOT SOME HELP OUT THERE, SISTER?


YEAH. I LIKE TEAMS! J.L.I.! J.S.A. ALL-STARS! THAT KINDA THING!
BOK
WHUMP
I MUST BE COMPENSATING FOR FEELINGS OF LONELINESS OR SOMETHING!
BUT FROM THE LOOKS OF YOU, BUDDY-- I'D SAY YOU'RE LUGGING AROUND SOME BAGGAGE TOO!
DID YOUR LATEX FETISH COME OUT OF "MOMMY ISSUES"?
DON'T KNOW.
LIKE I SAID--
CLEP
--I'M A WORK IN PROGRESS.
YEAH... YOU'RE GETTING PROGRESSIVELY BIGGER AND STRONGER BY THE...
BY THE MINUTE... I MIGHT HAVE TO SLOW THAT DOWN...

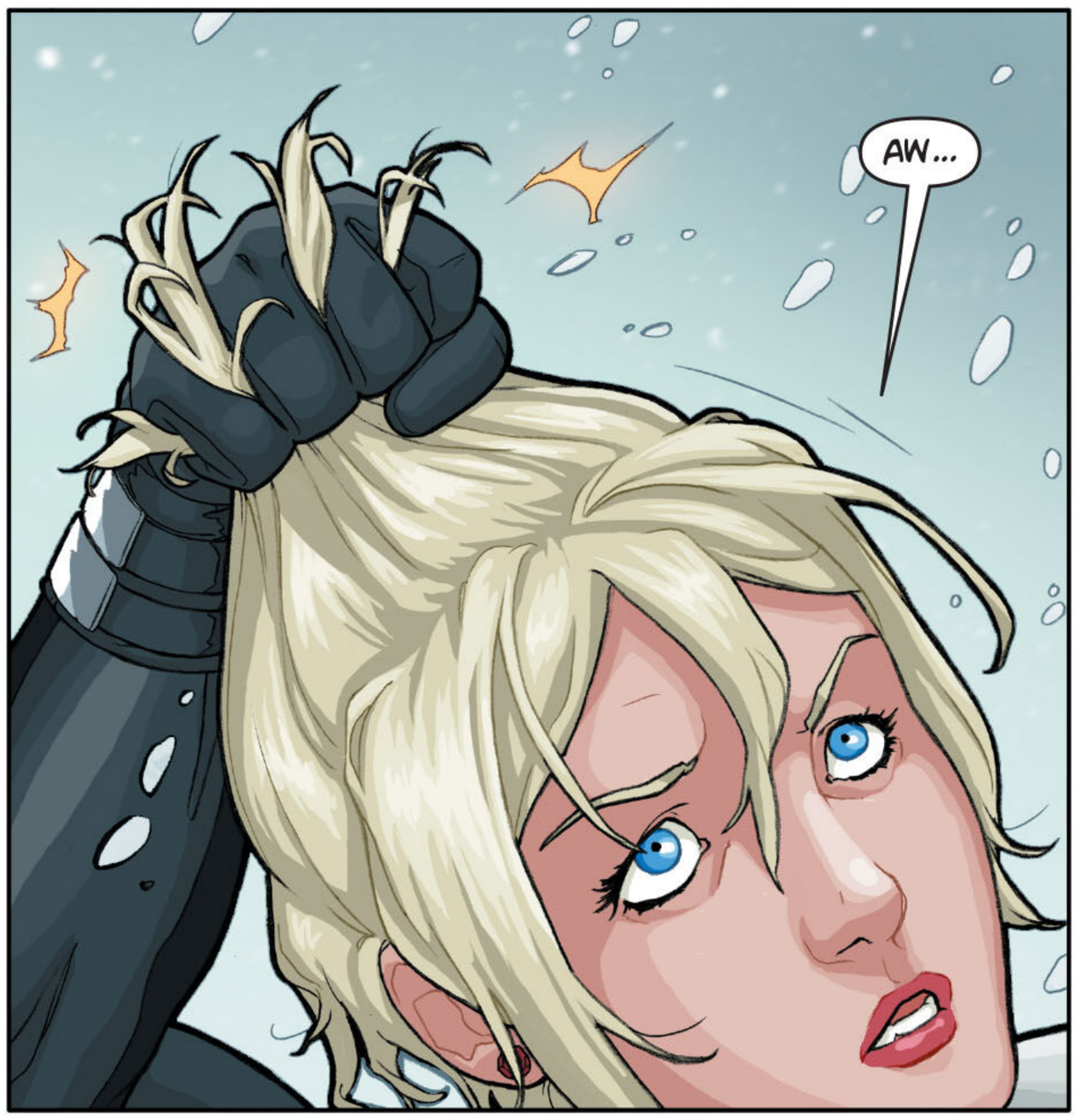

FROOOOOOSHHH

NICCO, ANY INSIGHT WOULD BE SWELL AROUND NOW!!
I'M DOING EVERYTHING I CAN!!

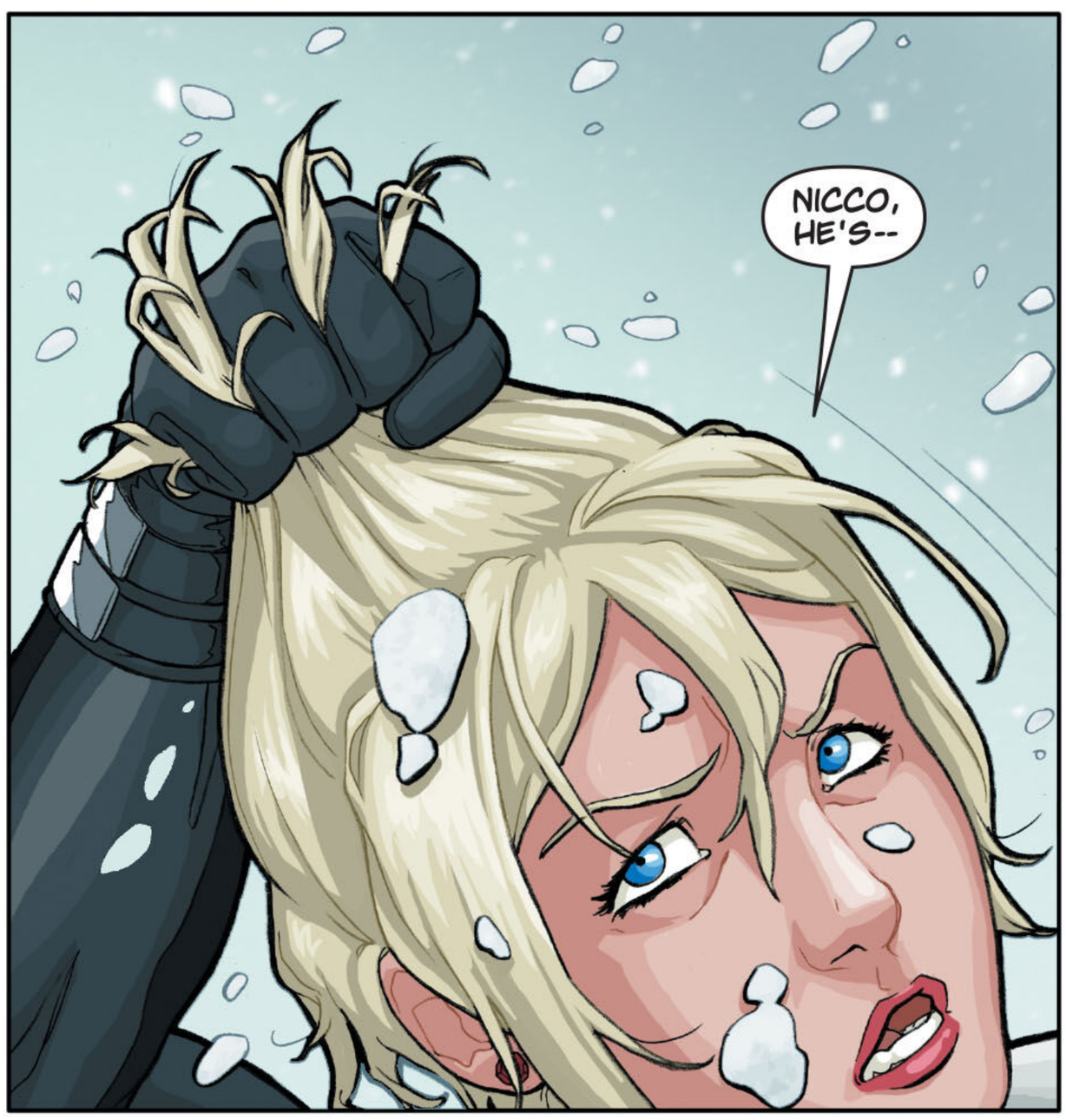
I CAN'T NARROW ANY PARAMETERS, OR LOCK IN ANYTHING TO IDENTIFY WHAT HE IS 'CAUSE HIS PHYSIOLOGY KEEPS CHANGING!

IT'S LIKE TRYING TO HIT A MOVING TARGET.

YEAH, SAME HERE!
GRUNK


AW...

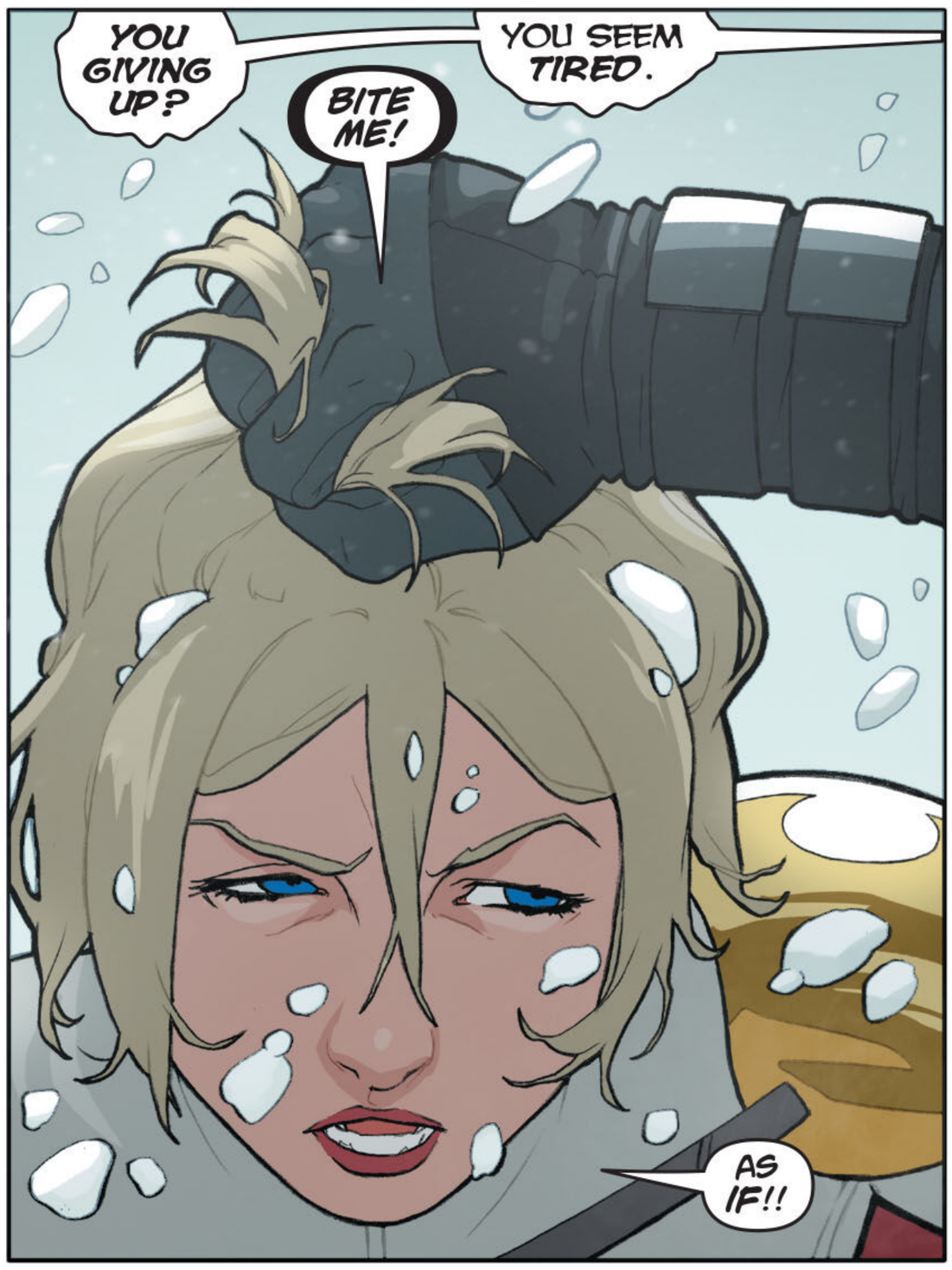
...CRA--
MMMMPH!


NICCO, HE'S--

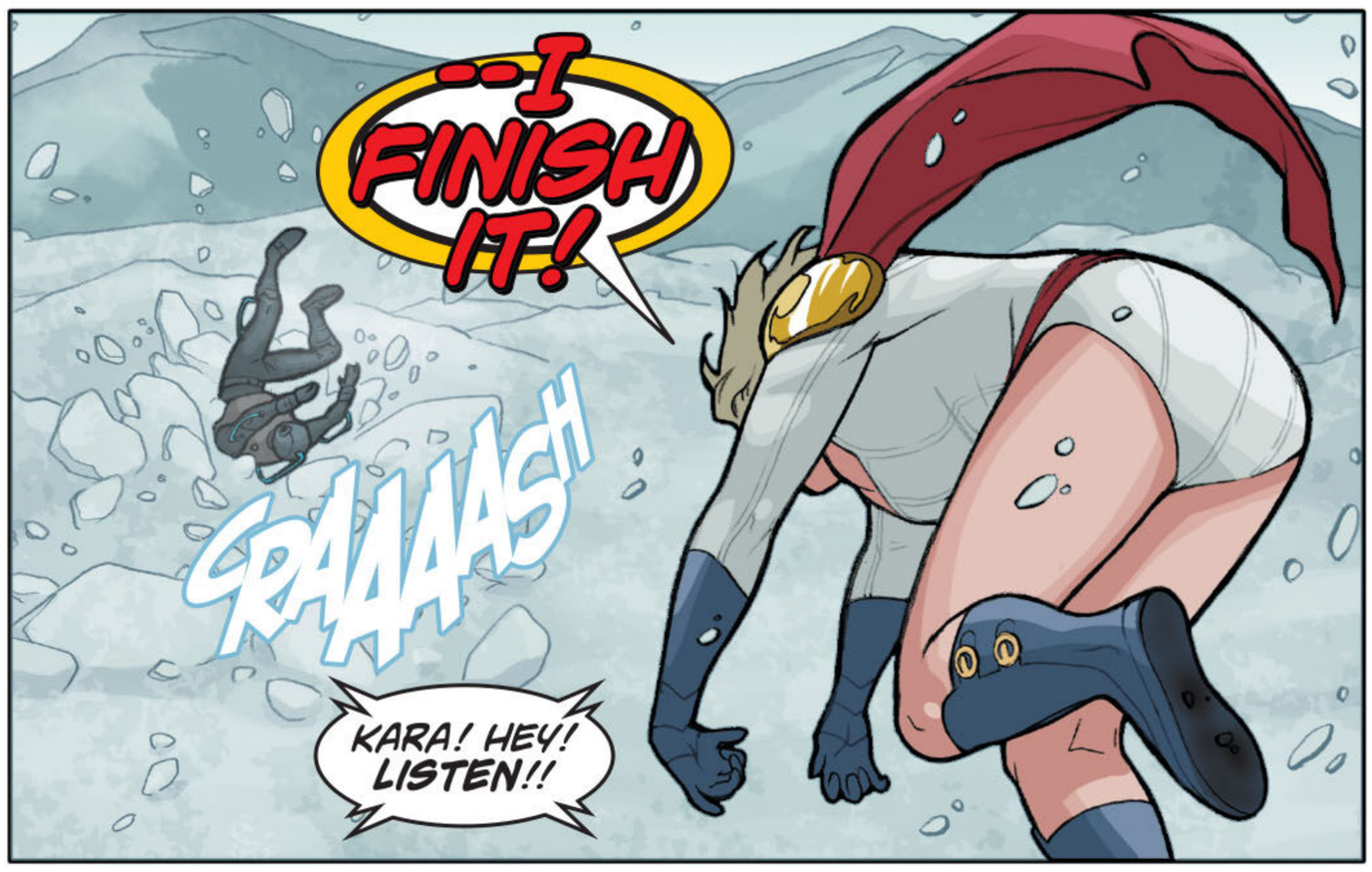
--MUCHMMMPH--

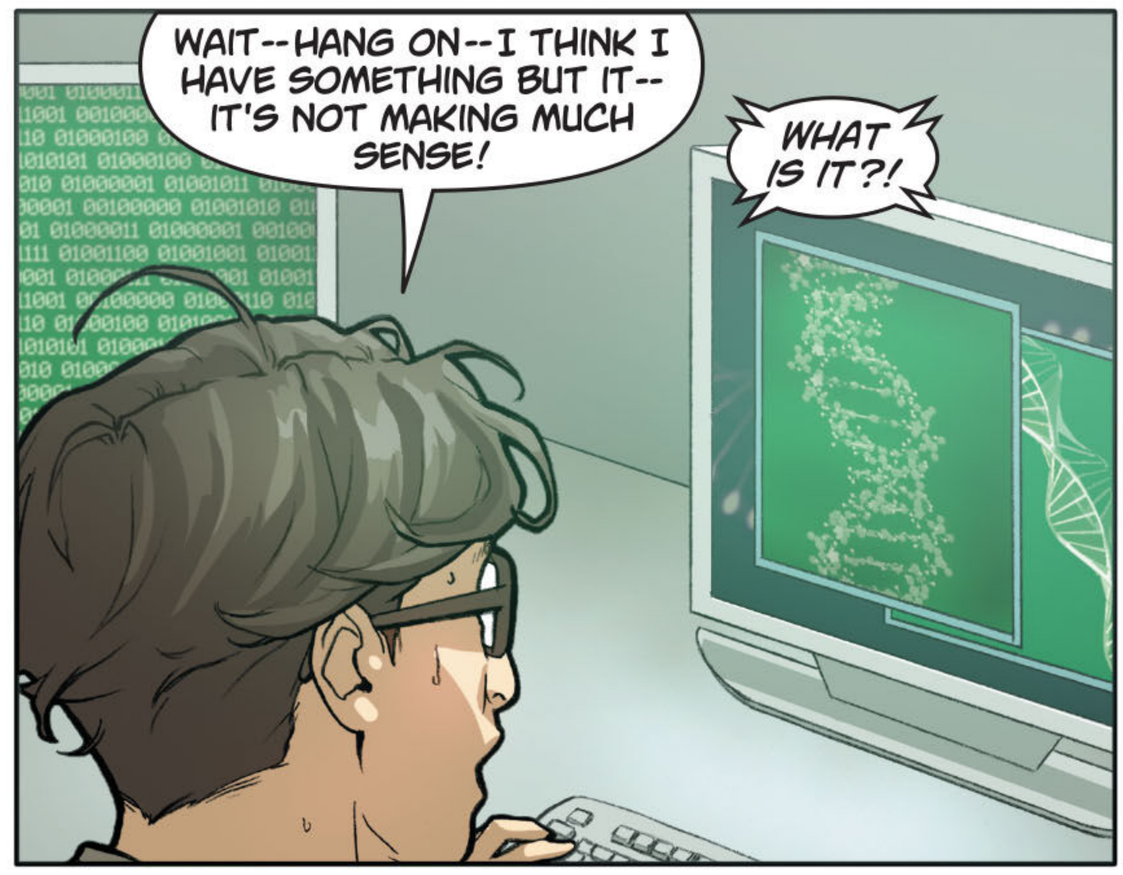
--FASTER--

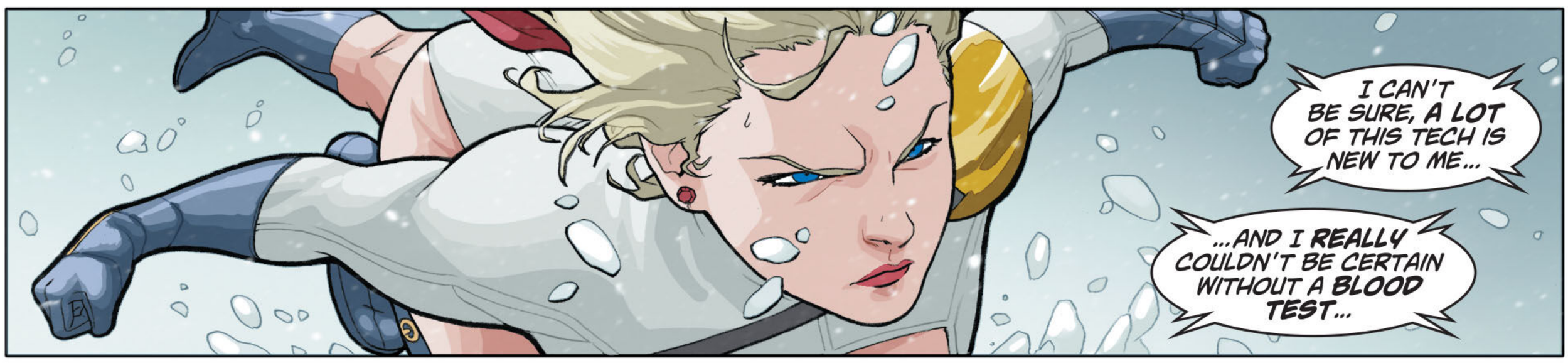
--NO WWWWWWWW!!!
WORKING ON IT!!

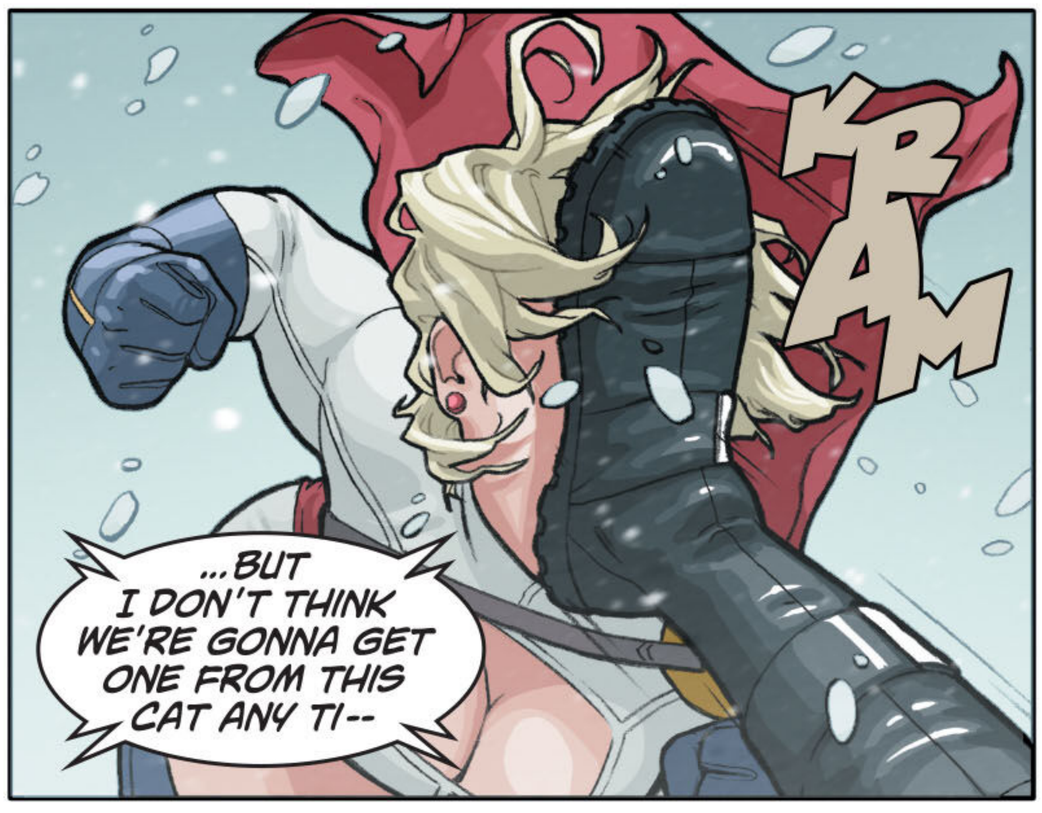

YOU GIVING UP?
BITE ME!
YOU SEEM TIRED.
AS IF!!

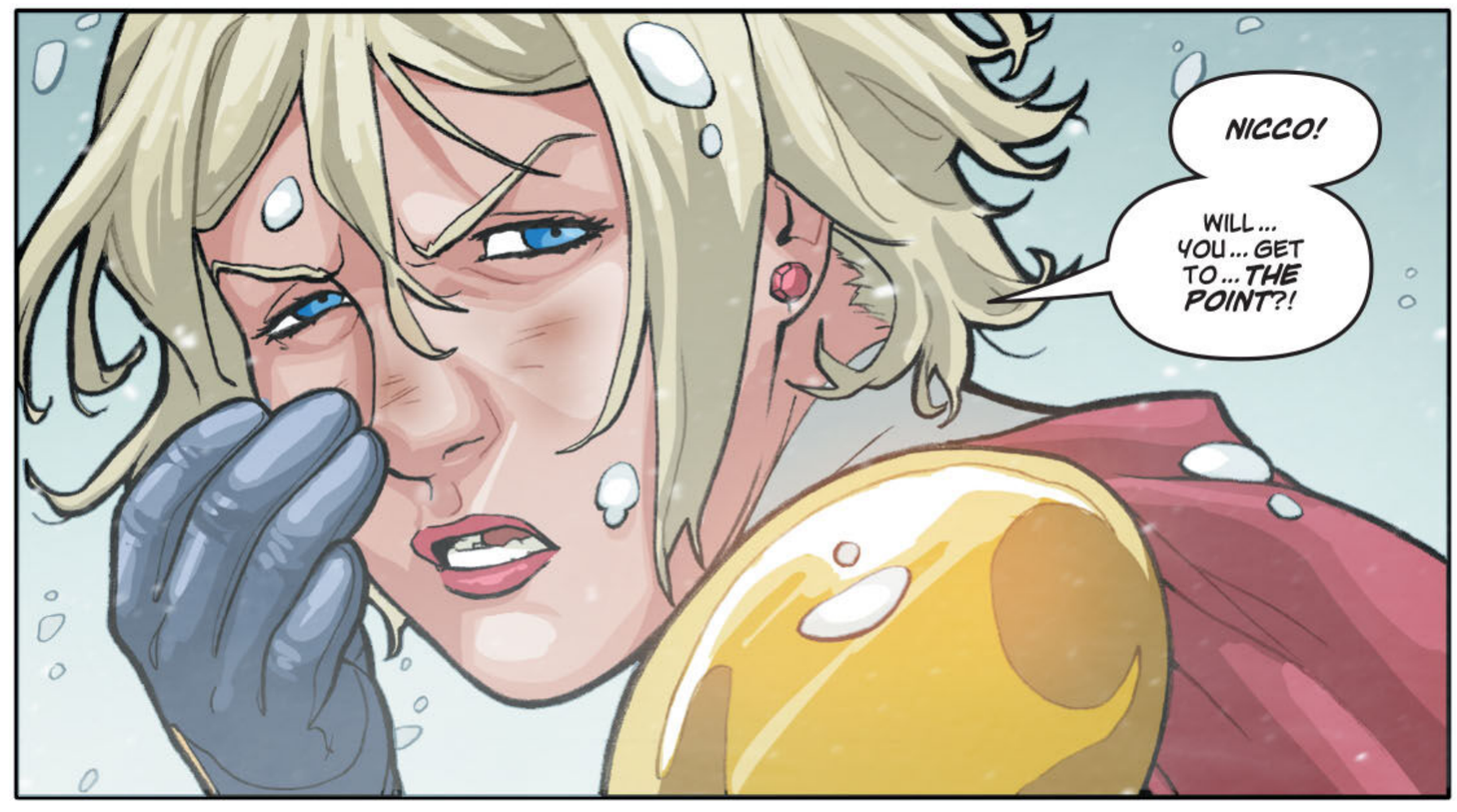
WE REALLY DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT. AT LEAST-- NOT ANYMORE.
I'VE GOT WHAT I NEEDED. I'M HAPPY JUST TO MOVE ON.
I'M KIND OF A GOAL ORIENTED SORT OF GAL.
I START A PROJECT--I JUST DON'T FEEL RIGHT UNLESS--


--I FINISH IT!
RAAAASH
KARA! HEY! LISTEN!!


WAIT--HANG ON--I THINK I HAVE SOMETHING BUT IT-- IT'S NOT MAKING MUCH SENSE!
WHAT IS IT?!


I CAN'T BE SURE, A LOT OF THIS TECH IS NEW TO ME...
...AND I REALLY COULDN'T BE CERTAIN WITHOUT A BLOOD TEST...

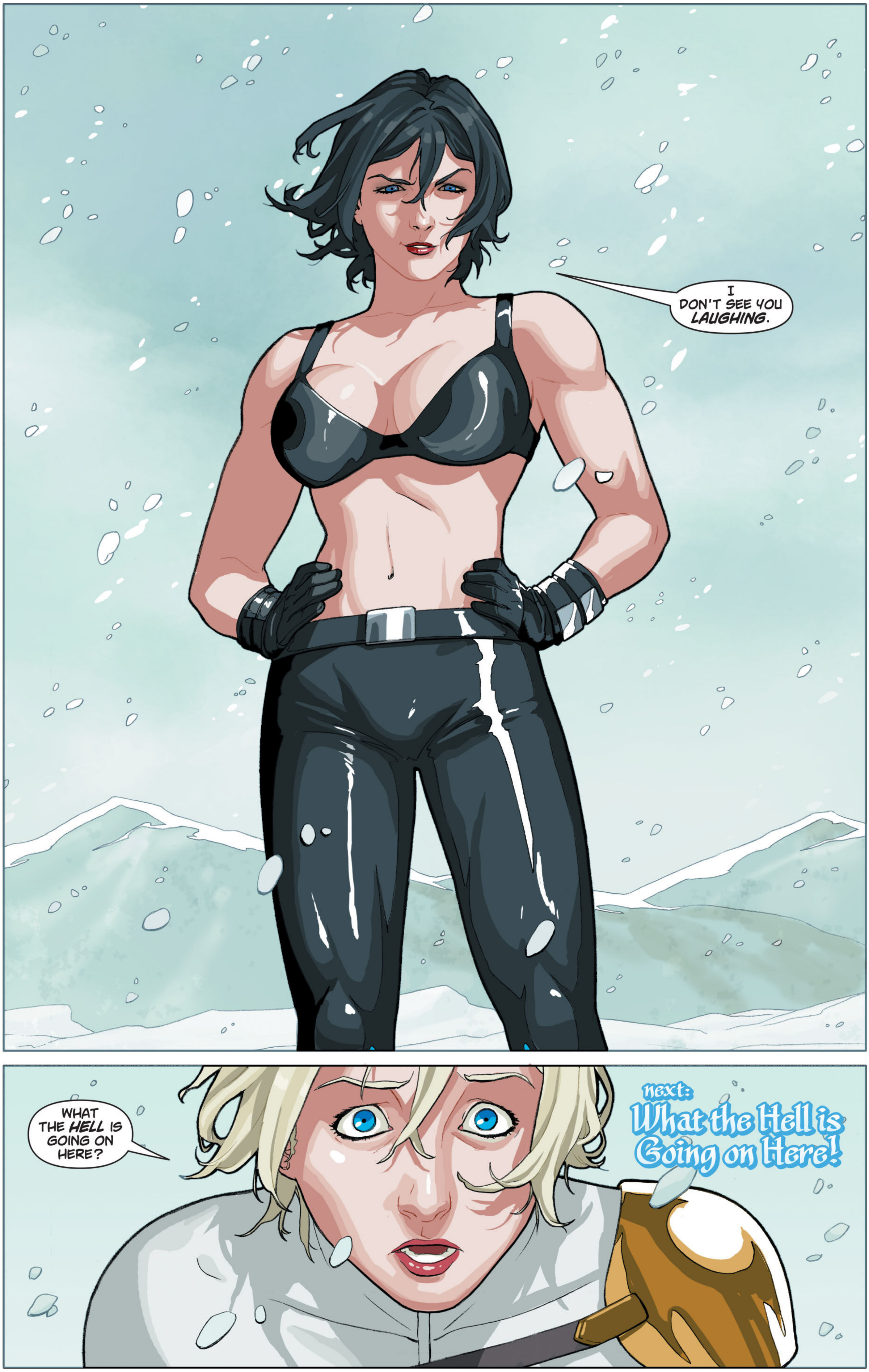

KRAM
...BUT I DON'T THINK WE'RE GONNA GET ONE FROM THIS CAT ANY TI--


NICCO!
WILL... YOU... GET TO... THE POINT?!

OKAY! OKAY! I'M PULLING READINGS OF THE CELLULAR RECONSTRUCTION PATTERN!
THE WAY THE CELLS ARE GROWING, EXPANDING, ABSORBING ENERGY--! IT'S JUST SO ODD!
I'M CROSS-REFERENCING TO SEE IF I CAN FIND ANYTHING SIMILAR IN BEHAVIOR OR ORIGIN!
THE DATABASES YOU'VE GOT HERE ARE EXTENSIVE...
...BUT I'M PRETTY SURE THAT YOU HAVEN'T GIVEN ME THE COMPLETE POOP ON THE METAHUMAN COMMUNITY--SECRET IDENTITIES AND ALL!
ANY MONTH NOW, NICCO!!
RIGHT! SORRY!
ANYWAYS, I'VE GOT...KIND OF...A MATCH!
NOT EXACT! BUT THE PATTERNS, THE WAY IT'S CONSTRUCTED--
--IT'S ALMOST IDENTICAL TO ANOTHER SET OF CELLS ON RECORD!

WHAT CELLS??!
KRYPTONIAN.
CELLS.
WHAT?

YOU HAVE GOT TO BE JOKING.
WHY? Y'THINK IT'S FUNNY?
TSSSSSS
SSSSSSS
TUNK
FLUMPH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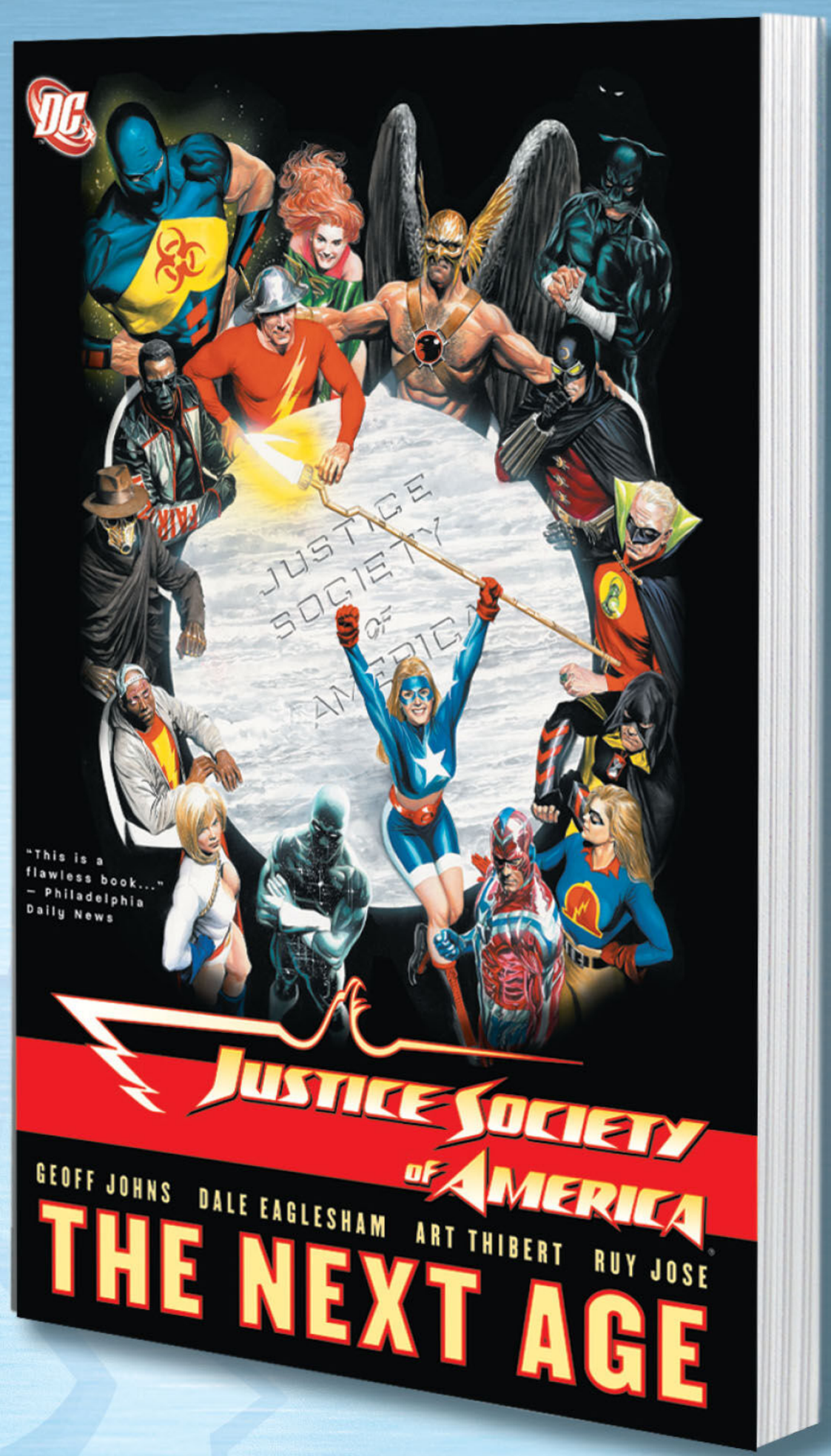

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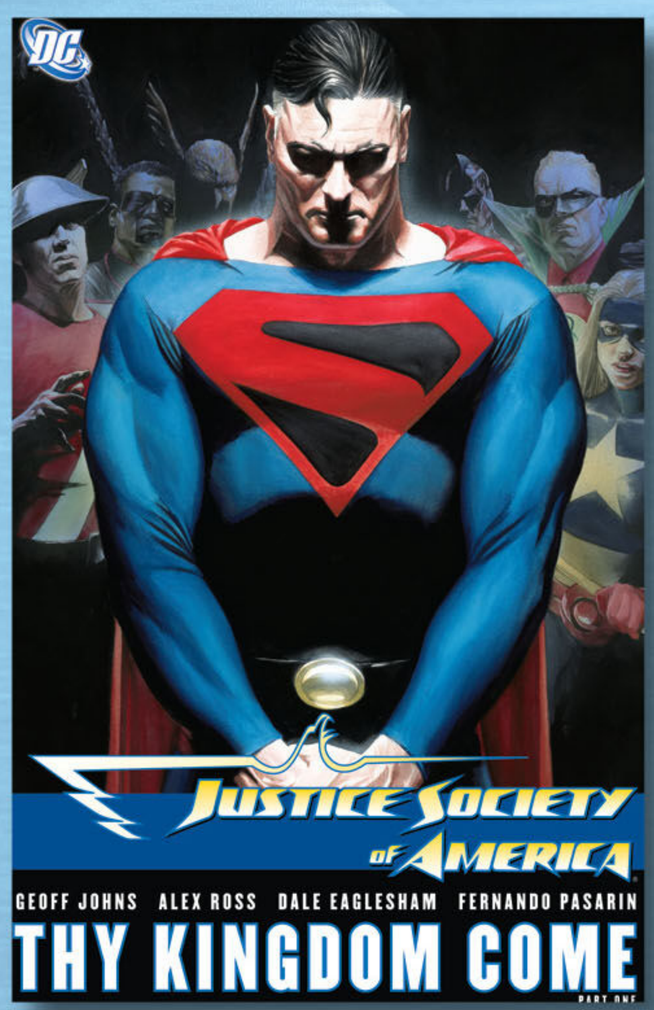

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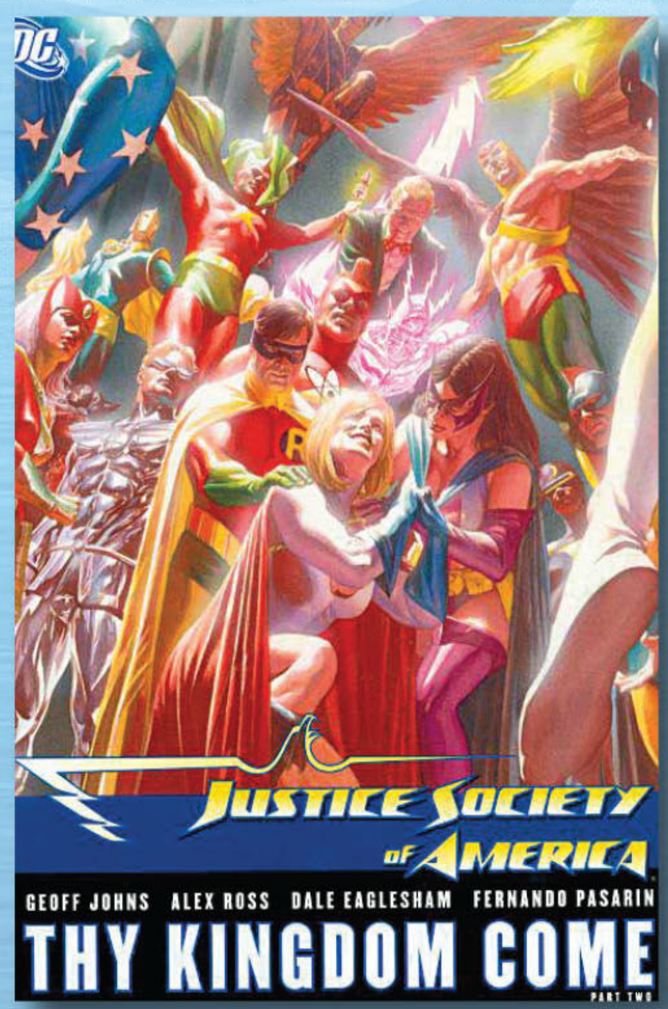

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